

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
UNION ASTRONOMIQUE INTERNATIONALE

FIFTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Santa Cruz, Ca., U.S.A., September 9-12, 1987

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:

J. Sahade	President
A.H. Batten	Vice-President
R. Kippenhahn	Vice-President
R.P. Kraft	Vice-President
P.O. Lindblad	Vice-President
M. Peimbert	Vice-President
Y.S. Yatskiv	Vice-President
J.P. Swings	General Secretary
D. McNally	Assistant General Secretary
R. Hanbury Brown	Adviser

In attendance:

M. Orine	IAU Administrative Assistant
D. Fraipont	Secretary, Liège

Excused:

R.M. West	Adviser
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Welcome by the Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Cruz

The Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Cruz, Professor Stevens, welcomed the members of the IAU Executive Committee to the Provost's House at Porter College

I. - Opening by the President of the IAU

After thanking the Chancellor the the University for his kind hospitality, the President of the IAU opened the meeting at 09.30 by welcoming the EC members.

- **Personalia**

IAU Vice-President M. Peimbert was congratulated for having become member of the US National Academy.

The recent death of former IAU President B. Strömgren was announced.

II. Internal matters

II.1. Approval of the minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The minutes are approved and will be sent to the Executive Committee Members.

II.2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved, apart from minor changes in scheduling.

II.3. Report on the Special Nominating Committee's (SNC) activities

The following Executive Committee is proposed by the SNC for the triennium 1988-1991.

President:	Prof. Yoshihide Kozai (Japan)	Comm. 6,7,20,38 & 50
President-elect:	Prof. Alexander A. Boyarchuk (USSR)	Comm. 27,29,38 & 44
General Secretary	Dr. Derek McNally (UK)	Comm. 34 & 46
Assistant General Secretary	Dr. Jacqueline Bergeron (France)	Comm. 28,34,44,47 & 48
Vice-Presidents	Dr. Alan .J. Batten (Canada)	Comm. 26,30 & 42
	Prof. Per O. Lindblad (Sweden)	Comm. 28 & 33
	Prof. Rudolf Kippenhahn (FRG)	Comm. 27 & 35
	Prof. V. Radhakrishnan (India)	Comm. 34,40 & 48
	Prof. Morton Roberts (USA)	Comm. 28,33 & 40
	Prof. Ye Shu Hua (China)	Comm. 8,19,31 & 33
Advisers	Dr. Jorge Sahade (Argentina)	Comm. 29,38 & 42
	Dr. Jean-Pierre Swings (Belgium)	Comm. 9,29 & 47

II.4. Report by the General Secretary on the IAU Secretariat

The General Secretary explained how the situation had evolved since EC 55, and what measures he took, in agreement with the other two Officers. Most of the discussion was to remain "off records": the important outcome, published in IAU Information Bulletins 59 & 60, concerns the departures of Miss Danièle Lours and Mrs. Brigitte Manning, and the hiring of an Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Monique Léger-Orine (present at EC 56), and of a part time (2/3) bilingual secretary, Mrs. Huguette Gigan, as of September 1st, and October 15, 1987, respectively. The Executive Committee agreed with the actions of the General Secretary, as well as with the future move of the IAU Secretariat to the CNRS/INSU/IAP new extension.

II.5. Statutes, By-laws and Working Rules

II.5.1. The text of the modifications which will be proposed to the General Assembly (see appendix 1, i.e. document 57/2.5/1 of EC 57).

II.5.2. Fundraising: setting up of an endowment fund

Following the announcement made in IB 57, the reactions which reached the IAU seem relatively pessimistic, due to the income tax regulations in the different countries involved, and the number of other actions already started by other astronomical organisations.

The aim of this endowment fund is however confirmed: it should support specific programmes: e.g. "Young Astronomers" and/or "Developing Countries". Suggestions are made that Commission 38 actively participates in handling the problem.

Prof. Yatskiv suggests that a book which would put special emphasis on realisations such as the largest telescopes, the largest projects, the past telescopes, T.V. iconography, etc. could be published (ICSU Press, Cambridge University Press?) and that the amounts thus gathered be devoted to specialised actions. Such a suggestion is to be followed up.

II.6. IAU Membership (individual)

List of Astronomers from Mexico and Latin America are available along with the list of equipments (See announcement in IB 59).

II.7. Membership of Adhering Bodies

II.7.1. Member countries:

Status of the payment of contributions is enclosed (Annexe n° 2)

- **Argentina:** as of January 1, 1987, they moved to category III.
- **Brázi:** the composition of the National Committee has been notified.
- **China, People's Rep.:** as of January 1, 1987, they moved to category V.
- **Cuba:** they will do their best to be present in Baltimore.
- **Finland:** no increase in their contribution is to be expected now.
- **Greece:** the composition of the National Committee has been notified.
- **Iran:** no news since 1983: President of IAU to write them.
- **Iraq:** no news since 1984: President of IAU to write them.
- **Rumania:** no progress since 1981: President of IAU to write them.
- **Turkey:** they are willing to conduct some astrophysics' schools, but...
- **Uruguay:** no progress since 1980. They have set up a new National Committee, and will try to pay before the Baltimore General Assembly; President of IAU to phone them.
- **USSR:** their shift from category V to VI may be envisaged, starting in 1988.

II.7.2 Non-Member Countries

- **Algeria:** they confirm their willingness to join IAU (category I). Several scientists' CV have been received at the Secretariat.
- **Iceland:** confirmation of their willingness to join IAU (category I).
- **Jordania:** mathematicians expressed their interest to Professor Sahade.
- **Morocco:** they have confirmed their willingness to join IAU and will officially present their candidacy at the next General Assembly.
- **Peru:** they could be affiliated as associate member (category I) if such a new category is confirmed.
- **Saudi Arabia:** formal application has reached IAU. For information, they have a project for a national observatory.
- **Sri Lanka:** they have expressed their interest in IAU, but for the moment no list of scientists has reached IAU.
- **Syria:** Professor Sahade has contacts with them.

II.8. Commission Matters

- Commission 5:

- . An international colloquium on "Library and Information Services in Astronomy" is to be held at the US Naval Observatory on 28-30 July, 1988.
- . The IAU Style Book is under preparation. The meeting of the editors of astronomical journals did not take place but the wish remains very strong. Following the suggestion of Professor Wilkins, the Executive Committee agrees that the IAU Style Book be dedicated to Professor Sadler.

- Commission 6:

The Executive Committee confirms that the circulars should not contain predictions, specially a posteriori predictions. Dr. Marsden will be informed that the Executive Committee does not encourage such a practice.

Report of Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, 1986, has been published in IB 58.

- Commission 20:

Report of the Minor Planet Center, 1986, has been published in IB 58.

- Commissions 19 & 31:

Setting up of IERS has been confirmed by IUGG during their August 1987 General Assembly. This new service is to start on January 1, 1988, in cooperation with IAU.

The E.C. recommends that Professor Wilkins be maintained as IAU Representative on the IERS Directing Board until the next General Assembly, where the name of Ya. Yatskiv will be proposed to replace that of G. Wilkins.

- Commission 26:

Members of this Commission are making a lot of efforts to make it continue to work and improve (see Dommanget's report, after IAU Colloquium 97, IB 59).

- Commission 38:

During the first semester of 1987, 3 grants have been allocated. The composition of the Organizing Committee will be modified as follows: Dr. S.G. Wang will replace Mrs S.H. Ye

- Commission 43 (possible resurrection?):

The overlap of the activities of this commissions with others (10, 12, 40 & 49) seems evident. Furthermore, it is a technical oriented one, rather than a scientific one. The recommendation is that the possible resurrection of this commission depends on the ability of its promoters to define scientific arguments to have it set up.

- Commission 46:

New rules have been prepared by Dr. McNally: see document 57/2.9/4 for EC 57.

Visiting Lecturers' Programme

. Lima, Peru,

After discussion, the following is decided: the contract with Lima will be renewed for a 3 year period. The courses to be given are listed below:

- . ^{solar} Astrophysics
- . Celestial mechanics
- . Spectroscopy or photometry

In order to allow Commission 38 to be more involved, the possibility to set aside some funds from the VLP programme is suggested.

. Asuncion, Paraguay

The contract has been signed this year for one year. Two courses have been scheduled:

- . Général astrophysics
- . General radioastronomy.

Sixteen lecturers have been contacted , and nothing has materialized yet.

- Commission 50:

Following the introduction by the General Secretary in recent IAU Information Bulletins, a lot of protests on space pollution reached the Secretariat, from individuals, countries, associations, observatories. The matter is definitely worth pursuing.

The creation by ESA of a Space Debris Working Group is mentioned.

- WGPSN:

The lists provided by Professor Masursky are endorsed by the Executive Committee

- Commissions: General

- . Compilation of Working Groups

The corrected list is to be published in IB 59.

- . Choice of Presidents and Vice-Presidents for 1988-1991: the Executive Committee expressed its appreciation for the care taken in proposing good names.

The list will be completed by the time of the General Assembly.

II.9. General Assemblies

II.9.1. XXth General Assembly

Preliminary descriptions have been given in IB 57 & IB 58.

The General Secretary reports on the work of the Local Organizing Committee where the team seems to have everything in hand.

The Belgian antenna has finished working on the preliminary programme.

- Scientific programme

Choice of Joint Discussions

18 proposals reached the General Secretary. Furthermore, 8 others have been recommended by US NOC. The following decisions have been taken:

Seven Joint Discussions have been selected on the following topics:

Disks and Jets on Various Scales in the Universe
Supernova 1987A in the Large Magellanic Cloud
Formation and Evolution of Stars in Binary Systems
Documentation, Data Services, and Astronomers
Atomic and Molecular Data for Astrochemistry
The Observing Program of the Hubble Space Telescope
Interplanetary Dust and Families of Minor Planets.

Choice of Joint Commission Meetings

10 proposals have been received. Some proposals for Joint Discussions have been adopted as Joint Commission Meetings. The seven following themes have been selected:

For Millisecond or better accuracy
Solar and Stellar Coronae

High Resolution Imaging from the Ground
Molecules in External Galaxies
Spectroscopy of Individual Stars in Globular Clusters & the Early
Chemical Evolution of the Galaxy
Stellar Photometry with Modern Array Detectors
Star Clusters in the Magellanic Clouds

Choice of Invited Discourses

Three Invited Discourses have been proposed:

Halley's Comet	Richard West & Vassily Moroz
The Rise and Fall of Quasars	Maarten Schmidt
Galaxy Formation and Dark Matter	Martin Rees

Speakers were contacted directly from Santa Cruz, and accepted the invitation.

The Press

An 8.30 a.m., daily press briefing will be organized to announce, clarify, and/or give background information on scientific agendas. The JHU News and Information staff hopes that the IAU E.C. will make a formal request to each invited speaker for a one-page summary of their talk.

Support to 200 young Astronomers

The General Secretary has been informed by A.F. Davidsen, Co-Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, that 200 young astronomers will benefit from free dormitory lodging, a daily allowance, and waiver of the registration fee.

Adherence to ICSU regulation

An official letter from the Foreign Secretary of the National Academy of Sciences, in his letter dated September 9, 1986, confirms that every step will be taken to ensure free circulation of scientists, as outlined in the "Advice to Organizers of International Scientific Meetings" brochure edited by ICSU.

Suggestions for resolutions

It is recommended that all resolutions be ^{received by} in hand of the Resolutions' Committee before the General Assembly. Dr. Alan Batten agrees to serve as Executive Committee Delegate. It is also recommended that a special meeting be organized before the end of the General Assembly to finalize the terms of the resolutions.

This has to be done before any & absolute decision - line in the G.A. before

Pre-payments from developing countries

The Local Organizing Committee will be asked to allow payments from developing countries at the time of the General Assembly, and look after such cases.

II.9.2. - Future General Assemblies:

- Decision on XXIst General Assembly made at Officers' meeting

The XXIst General Assembly will be held in Buenos Aires, at the invitation of the Argentina's National Astronomy Committee..

Thus, the General Secretary is requested to decline the invitation made by the Netherlands in a suitable ~~delay~~ way.

II.10. Finances of the Union

- Vérification des Comptes 1986 (Document here enclosed).

The certified accounts have been distributed. Professor Sahade expressed a few comments regarding the repartition of expenses between "President's" and "V.L.P.'s" one.

- Contributions of Adhering Organizations, see 2.7.
- Savings' account in the UK

The Assistant General Secretary reports on the rates and fiscal statutes of savings' accounts in U.K. It is decided, as an experiment, to transfer a limited amount to such an account, as a first step. Dr. McNally is due to approach the National Savings Bank in Glasgow.

II.11. IAU Publications

II.11.1. Symposia Proceedings, etc.

The Assistant General Secretary met on July 7, 1987 with Mr. G. Kiers of D. Reidel Publishing Company. The contract signed with Reidels stipulates that IAU Symposium proceedings should not exceed 350 pages, number which is most of the time over 500, if not 600. It seems that Reidel would agree to have this number of 350 pages brought up to 500.

In order to reduce the number of pages (and consequently the price of the volumes), the following recommendations are made:

- . Ask the SOC editors to be more firm as regards the length of invited papers;
- . Urge them to return manuscripts which do not fit the requirements;
- . Print only invited and regular papers;
- . Use graphics when possible rather than text;
- . Use abstracts to report the contributed papers, as well as the posters;
- . Contact Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific for the publication of contributed papers;

The AGS is requested to write a paper on this subject to be circulated among the EC members..

II.11.2. Distribution of Information Bulletin

Some delays occurred in the distribution of IB inside the U.S. The General Secretary will contact Reidel in order to ask them to improve the distribution.

II.11.3. Distribution to Developing countries

The Executive Committee agrees to add The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Bangalore, India), to the previous list of 17 institutes receiving IAU publications at a reduced rate.

II.11.4. Astronomy and Astrophysics

"The publication of routine observations along with the correspondence with the Centre de Données Stellaires and with the IAU were discussed during the 24th meeting of the Board of Directors of CDS held in Paris on April 27, 1987. Good notice was taken then that the problem of preserving astronomical data would probably be discussed at the next General Assembly of the IAU".

II.11.5. Advertisement of other publications

Although some EC members are reluctant, the matter is left upon the General Secretary's decision.

III Scientific Activity

III.1. Rules for Scientific Meetings, see IB 58 pp. 18-31

No comment

III.2. IAU Symposia and Colloquia (the list of agreed upon IAU Symposia and Colloquia has, since EC 56, appeared in IB 59 & IB 60).

III.3. Co-sponsored Scientific Meetings

Discussion relative to COSPAR meetings: it is agreed that it would be important to have an official of IAU at these meetings.

III.4. Regional Astronomy Meetings

. Xth European: report by P.O. Lindblad

Professor Lindblad judged this Xth European Meeting, held in Praha very good and successful. A lot of parallel sessions were organized. The proceedings are to be published within a short delay and should be very useful.

III.5. Young Astronomers' Schools

- Future schools

Malaysia: it is too early to take any decision

Turkey: one of the requirements would be that they pay their dues to IAU

Cuba: Professor Sahade remains in touch with the Cuban organizers

Colombia: Because of many problems, this place cannot be retained, for the present time.

- Secretary of ISYAs

The President of Commission 46 will be approached in order to know if a change of secretary would be opportun, as Professor Kleczek is responsible for Young Astronomer Schools since 1967.

III.6. International Research Centers

A small ad hoc Committee, composed of R. Kippenhahn, P.J. Léna, Y. Uchida and with A. Batten as coordinator was set up. They are asked to study the two following proposals:

Third World Centre of Astronomical Research (TWCAR), China, People's Rep., and Centro Latino Americano de Investigacion in Astronomia (Latin America?; Spain?).

This matter is to be followed up at EC 57.

IV. International Activities

IV.1. ICSU (International Council of Scientific Unions)

- International Geosphere Biosphere Programme

Dr. J. Eddy has agreed to be the IAU representative to the "Special Committee for Geosphere-Biosphere Programme" (SCGB).

- International Space Year 1992

In the absence of R. West, the General Secretary reported on the activities of the "ICSU ad hoc group on the International Space Year" (ISY).

- Reduced mail rates by UNESCO

ICSU has decided to approach UNESCO and other appropriate UN Agencies and will keep the IAU informed of the outcome.

IV.2. COSTED (Commission on Science & Technology)

Some grants may be obtained from COSTED, specially in the frame of Young Astronomers' Schools and/or Regional Meetings.

IV.3. ICSTI (Intl Council for Scientific & Technical Information)

Following the report by the IAU representative to ICSTI, G. Wilkins, recommending the withdrawal from ICSTI, the Executive Committee agrees that the Officers make that decision after the General Secretary hears ICSTI's report at the forthcoming ICSU General Committee Meeting in Rome.

IV.4. URSI (Union Radio Scientifique Internationale)

Dr. G. Swarup agreed to act as IAU representative to their next General Assembly.

IV.5. IUPAP (Int'l Union for Pure & Applied Physics) (Commission 19)

The Assistant General Secretary thinks that their activities are not in competition with those of IAU and suggests that the IAU initiates a cooperation with them concerning the organization of some meetings.

IV.6. FAGS (Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Services)

Following the request from the Chairman of FAGS, the IAU agrees to increase its contribution to them by 25%, starting in 1988.

V. Other Business

V.1. Closing of Perth Observatory?

The Executive Committee agrees with the messages that were sent to Australian Authorities by the General Secretary.

V.2. International Star Registry (cont'd)

A few details are given, concerning the role of Professor Leith on this matter.

V.3. TV broadcasts, see IB 58 p. 39

The General Secretary informs the Executive Committee about the role of the IAU as a link between "Les Editions Berthemont" and the astronomical community.

V.4. Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

The next meeting (EC 57) will be held in Baltimore, July 31, August 1 & 9, 1988.

Closing by the President

The President closes the 56th meeting of the Executive Committee, with a word of thanks to the Local Hosts, and in particular to Professor F. Drake, Professor R. Kraft and Mrs. Sue Robinson. The very thoughtful gifts received at the Dream Inn Hotel were deeply appreciated.