

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Executive Committee

74th Meeting

Council Chamber, Whitworth Hall, University of Manchester

August 17, 2000 11:00 - 17:30

MINUTES

Present:

F. Pacini	President
R.D. Ekers	President-Elect
H. Rickman	General Secretary
O. Engvold	Assistant General Secretary
C. Cesarsky	Vice-President
N. Kaifu	Vice-President
N. Kardashev	Vice-President
S. Torres-Peimbert	Vice-President
R.E. Williams	Vice-President
R. Kraft	Adviser
J. Andersen	Adviser

Absent:

K.A. Pounds	Vice-President
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With the participation of Division Presidents:

N. Capitaine	Division I
A. Benz	Division II
M.Y. Marov	Division III
B. Barbuy	Division IV
E. Guinan	Division V
J. Dyson (for B. Reipurth)	Division VI
G. Meylan	Division VII
V. Trimble	Division VIII
A.U. Landolt	Division IX
L. Padrielli	Division X
G. Srinivasan	Division XI

Invited:

R. Davies	XXIVth GA
D. Walsh	XXIVth GA
R. Haynes	XXVth GA
H.H. Hyland	XXVth GA

In attendance:

M. Léger-Orine	Executive Assistant
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OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT

The President, F. Pacini, welcomes the members of the Executive Committee to the 74th meeting and introduces the new EC members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda is adopted.

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

Preliminary Review of GA XXIV

The NOC and the LOC, through Rodney Davies and Dennis Walsh, present their conclusions and disappointment concerning the present GA:

The attendance has been lower than expected, about 1550 fully registered participants, provoking thus a deficit preliminarily estimated at 40 kGBP. The reasons are felt to be:

- the strength of the pound
- the perception of Manchester,
- the small amount of external funding, and
- the weakness of the scientific programme

	22 nd GA (The Hague)	23 rd GA (Kyoto)	24 th GA (Manchester)
Symposia	6	6	5
Joint Discussions	20	23	14
Special Sessions	2	3	1

J. Andersen points out that the organizers of one of the meetings selected by the EC, although invited to hold a Symposium in Manchester, has maintained the choice of a Colloquium in Canterbury.

The remark is made that some participants attended without badges, i.e. probably without registering and paying the fee. Hence the rule that people wear their badge under any circumstance should be enforced.

Rodney Davies and Dennis Walsh are warmly thanked by the EC for their work in the preparation and throughout the GA.

Preparations for GA XXV

A presentation is made by our Australian colleagues, who are eager to know at least one year in advance the exact need for rooms. They are requested to secure cheap accommodation besides regular hotels. The EC is asked by the DPs that a full day meeting be planned before 2003 with the EC and DPs. Such a meeting in 2002 is probably too expensive, but not ruled out. A teleconference may be a solution.

The EC decides that the GS shall maintain close contacts with the DPs in order to prepare a well-balanced and rich programme of Symposia and Joint Discussions as early as possible. In particular, letters of intent are to be invited already for March 15, 2001, i.e. one year earlier than the traditional deadline.

Preparations for GA XXVI

The Czech organizers are invited to advertise the XXVIth GA in the next issue of the IB.

Invitations for GA XXVII

An indication of the deadline for receiving invitations for the 2009 GA should be sent to the Adhering Organizations.

DIVISION AND COMMISSION MATTERS

Approval of new Division Boards and Organizing Committees of Commissions

Divisions X and XI are urged to nominate their Board.

Commissions 21 and 35 are urged to provide the names for the Vice-Presidents.

Creation/discontinuation and reappointment of Working Groups

Due to lack of time, this point will be taken care of through e-mail correspondence within the EC.

Terms of Reference for Commissions and Working Groups

Although the norm is that Commissions and Working Groups set up their own rules, there should be a set of standard norms concerning their duration, etc. It is decided that A.U. Landolt and V. Trimble will help the GS to prepare a "cookbook" for Division and Commission Presidents.

Minor Planet Center

The Terms of Reference for the IAU Minor Planet Center (MPC) are finally approved, and the incoming GS is charged with the task of establishing a contract between the IAU and SAO to secure the running of the MPC accordingly.

RELATIONS TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Proposed collaboration with ASP

The document concerning an IAU/ASP collaboration to provide a centralized Astronomy Research Depository is discussed. It is decided to postpone any decision until EC 75, while maintaining contacts with J. White, Executive Director of ASP. R. Ekers is due to report on this subject.

Appointment of IAU Representatives to other Organizations

The document provided is reviewed. Some suggestions are made. The list will be finalized by the GS.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

The following meetings have been selected:

Symposia

Symposium 206 Cosmic MASERS: From Proto-Stars to Black Holes
March 5-10, 2001, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Symposium 207 Extragalactic Star Clusters
March 12-16, 2001, Pucon, Chile

Symposium 209 Planetary Nebulae: Their Evolution and Role in the Universe
November 19-23, 2001, Canberra, Australia

The following symposia are conditionally approved, pending discussions between the IAU and the organizers:

Symposium 208 Astrophysical Supercomputing using Particle Simulations
July 10-13, 2001, Tokyo, Japan

Symposium 210 Modeling of Stellar Atmospheres
June 17-21, 2002, Uppsala, Sweden

This Symposium was initially scheduled to be held in June 2001.

Colloquia

Colloquium 184 AGN Surveys
June 18-22, 2001, Byurakan, Armenia

Colloquium 185 Radial and nonradial pulsations as probes of stellar physics
July 26-31, 2001, Leuven, Belgium

Latin-American Regional Meeting

10th Latin-American Regional Meeting
September 17-21, 2001, Cordoba, Argentina

Co-sponsored meeting

A workshop in Brazil, together with COSPAR and UN, about using space-based data (of educational character) is conditionally approved for IAU sponsoring by 10 kCHF pending SOC and scientific programme.

The future planning of the Meeting programme is discussed, and it is agreed that decision should rather be taken at the EC meeting two years before the considered events. It is found desirable to move toward that goal as quickly as possible.

EDUCATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN 2001

ISYAs

25th ISYA

The ISYA will be held January 3-22, 2001 (new dates). M. Gerbaldi has requested an extra funding of CHF 5000, which she is advised to ask from the C 46 budget.

26th ISYA

A proposal to hold an ISYA in Argentina in 2002 has been received. A detailed proposal is invited for the next EC meeting along with the budget.

Other ISYAs

Inofficial information has been received by M. Gerbaldi concerning an ISYA in Morocco in 2003, and later in Georgia and Macedonia.

PUBLICATIONS

Transactions XXIVB

Inputs for these Transactions are due for October 31, 2000.

Format of Reports on Astronomy and Transactions

Presidents of Divisions and Commissions have been given the choice to submit condensed or long reports within a specified format, with considerable latitude as to the number of pages; this will basically continue.

New Format for JD and Colloquium Proceedings

It is contemplated to negotiate with ASP the possibility of having a new series of IAU publications which would allow to publish more extensively Joint Discussions held during GAs: in effect, some organizers and contributors to these Joint Discussions would like to present more complete papers. Such individual publications of single Joint Discussions would allow a faster and cheaper publication than the traditional Highlights which would contain Invited Discourses, as presently, and Joint Discussions for those who do not feel the need for a separate publication. If ASP is willing to amend the contract, the list of the JDs which will be published as separate volumes should be settled as soon as possible after their acceptance. It is decided to discuss again this point during EC 75.

REFORM OF IAU STATUTES, BYE-LAWS AND WORKING RULES

It is decided that a drafting group, composed of the GS, J. Andersen, R. Williams and N. Kaifu will submit a new version of the Statutes, Bye-Laws and Working Rules to be discussed by the EC.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNION

The GS is to look for ways to delegate work items and hire special-purpose staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

The EC discusses the efforts to safeguard the possibility of free data distribution against proprietary legislation and supports the initiatives by CODATA in this regard.

The President thanks the EC members and the Division Presidents for their participation in the meeting.

THE PETER GRUBER FOUNDATION (PGF) FELLOWSHIPS (EC members only)

Thanks to funding from the PGF, 75,000 USD will be available per triennium for fellowships to brilliant, young scientists in any field of astrophysics. The GS together with J. Andersen and R. Williams are charged with the task of setting up the relevant procedures for these awards.

75th EC MEETING

Upon invitation by J. Andersen, the next EC meeting will be held in Copenhagen, June 14-15, 2001.