

IAU Commission G2
Massive Stars
Summary of 2022-2023 activities
Nicole St-Louis, president

Composition

The G2 commission organizing committee (OC) consists of the following members: Lida Oskinova (vice-president), Sylvia Ekström (secretary), Miriam Garcia, Nidia Morrell, Sergio Simón Díaz and Fabrice Martins. No terms ended this year so no new members joined the committee.

Meetings and day-to-day workings

From April 2022 to the end of March 2023, we held 9 meetings by Zoom and one meeting in person during the IAU supported meeting on massive stars in Ireland. We continue to store the minutes of our meetings on a dedicated switch drive hosted by the secretary and to use email and Slack as communication channels.

Online seminars

In view of the growing interest for online seminars, we decided to take advantage of this trend to make massive star research more accessible to our community. As a first step we simply promoted the talks with a link to massive stars already organized in various universities and that provided a Zoom link. We encouraged members of our community to participate in this initiative.

Later in the year, our committee decided to launch an official IAU G2 commission online seminar series. We aim for a balance of speakers in career levels, geography, gender, and topics. The talks take place monthly on the last Thursday of each month. With the agreement of the speaker, the talks are recorded and made available on a dedicated YouTube channel that can be accessed via our Website. The series started in March 2023. The first few presenters were chosen by the members of our committee but next year we intend to seek input from the community.

We will continue to promote individual departmental online seminars when the opportunity arises.

Promoting massive-star research

We have attempted to promote massive-star research by organizing the posting of press releases on the IAU-hosted official webpage of the G2 commission. For our first posting, we selected the press release by Bodensteiner et al. on stripped binaries. Unfortunately, we find that community members are not

extremely active in sending in their press releases. Therefore, we resolved to monitor the ESO, Hubble and JWST press releases to seek them out ourselves.

Ireland IAU massive star meeting in May 2022

The latest IAU-supported conference related to massive stars, *IAUS 361: Massive Stars Near & Far*, took place in Ballyconnell, Ireland on 18-22 May 2022 after being postponed from its originally planned dates in May 2020 because of the Covid pandemic. The organizers had also previously hosted a successful online meeting on 8-13 May 2021. The meeting in presence was a great success with the participation of more than 200 attendees.

Next Massive star meeting to be held in 2025

We are already starting to plan the organization of the next conference related to massive stars, which we decide should be held in 3 years' time, in 2025. During the Ireland meeting, we have sought ideas from our community for locations and scientific topics. A more formal call for interest to organize the next meeting was sent out by email and on Facebook in the fall 2022 with a deadline on 7 November. We have received four strong proposals that we are currently analyzing. The official Letter of Intent should be submitted in September 2023 and the full proposal in December 2023.

Ethics committee

Our committee became aware that the role and responsibilities of members of the ethics committee that are set-up at our scientific meetings could be clarified. Although the Code of Conduct of the IAU is quite clear on how participants should behave and what harassment consist of, for example, not enough effort is made to ensure that our community is aware of and understands it. Furthermore, members of the ethics committee do not receive adequate training on how they should react if something should happen. For the next meeting we would like this issue to be resolved. We intend to seek advice from the IAU on this matter. We also aim to prepare a small number of slides on this topic that could be shown at the beginning of the next IAU-endorsed massive stars conference.

Other meetings of interest for the massive star community

Our committee intends to promote the organization of a 3-day workshop (<100 people) to help our community to get ready for the upcoming advent of giant telescopes (in particular the ELT). The meeting would be held in Spain, most likely during the month of April 2024. We are seeking funding to help with the organization (For example: from the Spanish Network for Astronomical Infrastructure, RIA).