

Committee membership:

*Carlos Abia*

*Xuefei Chen* (Secretary)

*Nariman Ismayilov*

*Franz Kerschbaum* (Vice President)

*Šarūnas Mikolaitis*

*Marc Pinsonneault* (Adviser – past President)

*Jacco van Loon* (President)

With a refreshed committee following the 2021 elections, we have met on-line twice and discussed via e-mail, and identified three priority areas we want to develop:

- Improved communication and collaboration across disciplines

Besides our participation in the ranking and feedback of proposals for IAU Symposia, we are keen to seek opportunities to develop cross-disciplinary links as stellar evolution is important for so many different fields in astronomy – from high-redshift galaxies hosting the first stars to the nearby hosts of planetary systems. Likewise, our knowledge of stellar evolution benefits from the studies of stars and stellar populations in different contexts. To this aim we have approached various other IAU bodies (Commissions and Working Groups) to establish contact points. We hope this will encourage collaboration where appropriate.

- Providing a service to our community

We want to help ensure the transfer of in-depth knowledge of stellar structure and evolution and of the tools that are used to calculate, model or simulate these. This is of critical importance for effective progress in our field as well as in a variety of fields that rely on our understanding of stellar evolution. But there is a danger that some of that knowledge is lost if it is not passed on to others working in the field; it is also important that users of tools understand their physical ingredients, numerical implementation and the assumptions, approximations and limitations.

We are therefore exploring the idea of a series of advanced workshops, preferably hands-on but recorded and disseminated if it is meaningful to do so. Accessibility will be at the fore of our minds. This idea has been endorsed by the IAU President Professor Deborah Elmegreen.

- Mobilising our community

It would be both undesirable and impossible for a small committee to take the lead in organising major incentives such as the aforementioned workshops. We are therefore inviting expressions of interest from the community in first instance, before approaching potential collaborators on this project more directly. After a first communication to our membership at large shortly after we took office, we expect to do this on a regular basis but not too frequently – three times per year sounds about right.

We are also keen to increase the opportunities and support for members of our community who come from an under-privileged or under-represented background, to engage in IAU activities and assume leadership roles within our field.

Initiated during the previous triennium following a pilot, we will relaunch the Ombud as it needs to move to a new platform following the commercialisation of the previous service.

It needs no explanation that the last couple of years have been particularly demanding, and we are acutely aware that many people continue to face challenges as they try to recover.