

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Executive Committee: 65th Meeting

August 14, 15 (pm), 16 (am) & 22 (pm) 1994, The Hague, The Netherlands

Congress Center, Vermeer Hall

Draft Minutes

Present:

A.A. Boyarchuk	President
L. Woltjer	President-Elect
J. Bergeron	General Secretary
I. Appenzeller	Assistant General Secretary
D. Matthewson	Vice-President
F. Pacini	Vice-President
V. Radhakrishnan	Vice-President
M.S. Roberts	Vice-President
J. Smak	Vice-President
Ye Shu Hua	Vice-President
Y. Kozai	Adviser
D. McNally	Adviser
J. Andersen	Invited

In attendance:

M. Léger-Orine	Administrative Assistant
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OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT

The President, A. Boyarchuk, welcomes the members of the Executive Committee to the 65th meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda is adopted.

EC INTERNAL MATTERS

The Minutes of EC 64 are approved.

MEMBERSHIP

The General Secretary reports that following ICSU rules the Eastern European or former USSR countries listed below have become IAU members:

in 1992: Full members

Estonia	category of adherence I
Russia	category of adherence V

in 1993: Full members

Czech Republic	category of adherence II
Slovak Republic	category of adherence I
Lithuania	category of adherence I
Ukraine	category of adherence II

Associate national member

Tajikistan	Category of adherence I
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in 1994: Full members

Armenia	category of adherence I
Georgia	category of adherence I (fee for 1994 waived)

The Academies of Sciences of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan have also expressed their interest to adhere to the IAU and are investigating means for solving their financial problems regarding the payment of dues to the Union.

The IAU has been approached by the President of the Assembly of Astronomers and Astrophysicists of Central America, concerning the possibility to adhere to the Union.

Since Rumania and Nigeria had not paid their dues for over five years, the adherence of these countries to the IAU as full members was terminated in 1991. Following the XXist General Assembly (August 1991) the IAU proposed to these countries the status of Associate membership. Rumania has accepted the proposed associate status. No reply has been received from Nigeria.

Former Yugoslavia:

ICSU received a request for membership from Croatia but none from Serbia. The Executive Committee decides that request for membership of Academies of Sciences from the states of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will be dealt with on a case by case basis, and this only after these Academies will have applied for membership to the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and have been accepted as ICSU National Members.

New individual members (list B)

The Executive Committee decides that, although some of the suggestions for membership included in Membership list B have not been proposed either by a President of Commission or by the Executive Committee, to forward the list unchanged for consideration by the Nominating Committee.

FINANCES

Raise in category of adherence

The General Secretary reports that two countries have raised their category of adherence (as of 1993):

Finland	from I to II
Greece	from II to III

Spain, where the number of members is also well above the average of the members of other countries of the same category has not replied to a request to raise its category.

In the case of the USA, the dues were not increased in spite of the efforts of the USNC for the IAU.

However, according to information received by the General Secretary, the USA are willing to pay a third voluntary contribution of USD 20,000, making use of an allowance of USD 40,000 from NASA funds, the remaining USD 20,000 being distributed as grants for the XXIInd General Assembly through the AAS.

Countries in arrears

Cuba and Iraq did not pay their dues for five and six years respectively. Their membership has, therefore, ended according to our statutes. The General Secretary will propose the Status of "Associate Member" for these two countries. The General Secretary will also contact the representative of Colombia, if present at the GA, as this country has not paid dues since 4 years.

Voting right

The EC decides that all countries who paid their dues up to the date of the General Assembly will be allowed to vote. This leaves the following countries without Voting Right:

Full members: Armenia, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Hungary, Iran, Korea DPR, Morocco, Norway

Associate members: Rumania, Tadjikistan

The number of votes are thus 47 and 168 (articles 15a & 15b of the statutes, respectively).

Accounts

The General Secretary explains the 1993 audited accounts and the 1991-1993 accounts for presentation to GA XXII.

Treasurer's report

After a brief discussion and the role of the tasks of the EC member acting as treasurer, the current treasurer, Morton S. Roberts, presents the following report:

"A major change in the financial accounting procedures for the IAU has been made. This change, from a cash basis to accrual accounting, will allow a better view of year-to-year budgets. A significant amount of work by the General Secretary and the members of the secretariat was involved and they are to be complimented in accomplishing this task so effectively. During an April 1994 visit to the IAU offices in Paris, I was able to study and to discuss previous budgets as well as the one to be proposed at the 22nd General Assembly for the triennium 1994-1996. The details of these budgets are available to the Executive Committee. I shall note a few of the salient aspects for the six-year interval 1991-1996, which cover three years of actual and three years of proposed budgets. During this period the annual income and expenditures are in near steady-state, showing only a modest growth; income and expenditure are (or are projected to be) near 800,000 Swiss Francs. Reserves are typically a million CHF. During 1991-1993, 71 percent of income came from the dues from adhering countries. The remainder was primarily from bank interest, royalties, and special contributions. This last item is likely to be much less in the present triennium. The 1994-1996 proposed budget has 84 percent of income from dues. A 2 percent reduction in total income from 1991-1993 (actual) to 1994-1996 is projected. This, while expenditures for the same intervals are expected to increase by 9 percent. The projected (1994-1996) budget shows a decrease in reserves of 68,510 CHF. The sign of everything is opposite to the sense we would like to see. Clearly a careful watch over the finances of the Union must be continued. This is the second and last of my "Treasurer's Reports." The continuing office of Treasurer was created in 1992 by the Executive Committee in response to a request for such action by the Finance Subcommittee. Although the

responsibilities of this office are somewhat general in their description, I trust that I have been of help to the Executive Committee, to the General Secretary, and to the secretariat."

REPORTS OF EC WORKING GROUPS

Worldwide Development of Astronomy

Following the recommendations made by A. Batten (Chairman of the WG for the Worldwide Development of Astronomy), the Executive Committee decides:

- that Teacher's Workshops become regular features of IAU Regional Meetings, under Commission 46
- that a special allocation be made available to encourage development of astronomy in Vietnam
- that the IAU support the yearly UN/ESA workshops, requesting a change in the title in order to reflect the sponsorship and financial commitment of the IAU to "UN-ESA-IAU Workshops on Basic Space Science in Developing Countries"

Concerning a planned meeting in Vietnam for October 1995, the Executive Committee expressed the wish to get more information and requests that the the Presidents of the WGWDA, of Commission 46 and the Secretary of the ISYAs coordinate their efforts before taking any action. The final decision in this matter is left to the General Secretary.

The Executive Committee does not endorse the suggestion made by Dr. J. Narlikar that IUCCA in Pune might serve as a "regional centre" for the IAU. But following Dr. Batten the Executive Committee encourages Commission 38 to support visits from outside India to IUCCA.

The Executive Committee endorses the nomination of Drs. Soonthornthun Boonrucksar (Thailand), Kumar Golap (Mauritius) and M.C. Pinedas de Carias (Honduras) for IAU membership.

Planetary Systems Nomenclature

The Executive Committee endorses the resolution presented in the report of the WGPSN concerning the establishment of a Working Group with representatives of Commissions 15, 16 & 20 and the WGPSN to formulate a proposal for a unified procedure for establishing nomenclature for the planetary system including naming of minor bodies as well as nomenclature for surface features on solar system objects.

Antarctic Astronomy

No report has been received, but a meeting of the Working Group will take place during the General Assembly.

COMMISSION & WORKING GROUP MATTERS

Restructuring of the Commissions and Working Groups

The EC discusses in detail the answers from Presidents and vice-Presidents of Commissions & Chairs of Working Groups concerning the proposed restructuring and drafts a proposal to be submitted for discussion between the Officers and the Presidents and vice-Presidents of Commissions on August 22, am. The text of this proposal is given in the Appendix 1 to these minutes.

Proposed new Commission on Archiving Spectroscopic Data

The proposal to form a new Commission on Archiving Spectroscopic Data is not endorsed by the EC. However, the EC asks that the General Secretary to confirm the EC's interest in the existing Working Group for Spectroscopic Data Archiving under Commission 29 and to encourage the Working Group to proceed vigorously with its task.

Commission 5: FITS WG

A request presented by P. Grosbol, that his FITS WG become a WG of the Executive Committee is rejected. The EC considers that standardization for transport and archiving of astronomical data should stay under the responsibility of Commission 5. On the other hand, P. Grosbol is encouraged to submit a resolution on this subject to the General Assembly.

Commission 19: ERHRF WG

The EC declines a request for funds to buy a PC/AT 386 for the Engelhardt Astronomical Observatory of Kazan, Russia made by J. Vondrak, Chairperson of the WG on Earth Rotation in the Hipparcos Reference Frame. Dr. Vondrak is asked to get in touch with EAS or ESO, where funds may be available for such cases.

Commissions 27 & 45: Request for funds for publication of Newsletter for the Working Group on Be Stars

The EC feels that it is not the policy of the IAU to fund such publications. Support should be sought from home institutions.

Commission 46: New educational programme (TAD) proposal in replacement of VLPs

The EC agrees that the Visiting Lecturers Programme does not work satisfactory and therefore welcomes the TAD proposal in principal. However, the EC feels that the present draft could be improved and requests the President of Commission 46 to remit for EC 66 a revised version of the scheme introducing, in particular, more flexibility.

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

Additional proposed modification of the Statutes & by-Laws

The General Secretary proposes to suppress the requirement that non IAU members wishing to visit GAs have to be invited by the President, as this represents much work for the Secretariat, at a period at which the schedule is already very tight. The Executive Committee accepts to submit this proposal to the General Assembly, provided it is clearly spelt out that only IAU Members are entitled to take part in the votes.

XXIInd General Assembly

The agenda of the General Assembly is reviewed. It is requested that the General Secretary should mention explicitly in her report the special financial contributions received for the XXII General Assembly, as well as the level and number of grants allocated.

Proposals are made for the tellers, interpreters, members of the Resolutions Committee and members of the sub-Finance Committee.

XXIIIrd General Assembly, 1997

The request of the Japanese National Committee for Astronomy to allow symposia in nearby country during the period of three months before/or after the General Assembly is briefly discussed. The issue is deferred to the 66th Executive Committee meeting.

XXIVth General Assembly, 2000

Tentative invitations have been received (in chronological order) from:

- the Australian Academy of Science (Sydney)
- the IAU National Committee of Denmark (Copenhagen)
- the Royal Astronomical Society of UK (Manchester or Birmingham)

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Symposia

Accepted

Symposium 170: "CO: Twenty-five Years of Millimeter-wave Spectroscopy"
May 29-June 2, 1995, Tuscon, USA.

Symposium 171: "New Light on Galaxy Evolution"
June 19-23, 1995, Heidelberg, Germany.

Symposium 172: "Dynamics, Ephemerides and Astrometry in the Solar System"
July 2-8, 1995, Paris, France.

Symposium 173: "Gravitational Lensing"
July 9-14, 1995, Melbourne, Australia.

Symposium 174: "Dynamical Evolution of Star Clusters: Confrontation of Theory and Observations"
August 22-25, 1995, Tokyo, Japan.

Symposium 175: "Extragalactic Radiosources"
August/September, 1995, Bologna, Italy.

Symposium 176: "Stellar Surface Structure"
October 9-13, 1995, Vienna, Austria.

Not accepted

SP 02 Origin, Evolution and Destinies of Binary Stars in Clusters

Decision postponed

SP 11 Herbig-Haro FLOws and the Birth of Low Mass Stars

Colloquia

Accepted

Colloquium 154: "Solar and Interplanetary Transients"
January 23-27, 1995, Pune, India.

Colloquium 155: "Astrophysical Applications of Stellar Pulsation"
February 6-10, 1995, Cape Town, South Africa.

Colloquium 156: "The Impact of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 on Jupiter"
May, 1995, Baltimore, MD, USA

Colloquium 157: "Barred Galaxies"
May 30-June 3, 1995, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA

Colloquium 158: "Cataclysmic Variables and Related Objects"
June 26-30, 1995, Keele, UK

Not accepted

CP 08 Radio Emission from the Stars and the Sun

CP 09 Stellar X-ray Astronomy across the HR Diagram

CP 10 Hydrogen Deficient Stars

Regional Meeting

The VIIIth Latin American Regional Meeting, November 20-25, 1995, Montevideo, Uruguay has received final approval.

There is no news on the IXth 1996 Asian Pacific Regional Meeting: The proposal made in November 1993 to hold this meeting in Seoul, South Korea, has not evolved further. Professor Kozai volunteers to contact the Korean National Committee in order to investigate what happened.

Special meeting

The EC decides to support a special meeting on

"Library and Information Services in Astronomy" (LISA II)
May 10-12, 1995, at ESO, Garching bei München, Germany as an "IAU Technical Workshop".

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

International Schools for Young Astronomers (ISYAs)

The EC asks the GS to convey compliments to Dr. D. Wentzel, ISYA Secretary, and Dr. M. Gerbaldi for their excellent and dedicated work.

The ISYAs n° 15 (*Portugal*, September 1986), 16 (*Cuba*, August 1989), 17 (*Malaysia*, May/June 1990) and 18 (*Morocco*, September 1990) were all very successful. However, the EC also takes note of Dr. Wentzel concluding remark:

"These four ISYA clearly benefitted the development of astronomy in the host countries and in orther astronomically developing countries. The majority of the responses support this very positive impression. However, these ISYA did not cause, and one should not necessarily expect them to cause the kind of dramatic changes in the host countries' astronomy as did the first ISYA in Indonesia and the ISYA in Nigeria"

Reports concerning the 2 ISYAs held in 1994 (*India* and *Egypt*) have been received from D. Wentzel.

VLP Paraguay: No remarks

PUBLICATIONS

The EC supports Dr. D. McNally request for an allocation of CHF 2000 to buy extra copies of the book "The Vanishing Universe: Adverse Environmental Impacts on Astronomy".

It is decided that upon request Transactions will be sent free of charge to certain National Organizations provided these organizations have paid their dues.

The request to send the Astronomical Telegrams to Peru free of charge is rejected.

NSA

Kluwer published IAU Symposium ~~169~~¹⁵⁹ with an erroneous title ("Multi-wavelength continuum emission of AGN" instead of "Active Nuclei Across the Electromagnetic Spectrum"). As a compension 400 free copies have been sent by Kluwer to a list of selected Institutes prepared by the eds., T.J.-L. Courvisier & A. Blecha.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

COSPAR: The EC recommends a tight coordination between COSPAR and IAU concerning the selection of the meetings during respective General Asemblies.

UN: The relations with the UN are summarized in the report of the EC Working Group Worldwide Development of Astronomy

CLOSURE BY THE PRESIDENT

The President closes the meeting, with particular thanks to the out-going members of the Executive Committee, Drs. M.S. Roberts, Radhakrishnan & Ye Shuhua, vice-Presidents, and Dr. D. McNally and Y. Kozai, Advisers.

"Proposal

In view of the various aspects mentioned by the Commission Presidents and others, and in order to create a flexible mechanism for change which fosters increased interaction, the EC would propose the following:

- I. All of the Commissions as presently constituted stay in place and continue their work in the usual way.
- II. A divisional structure is introduced to which the Commissions may affiliate. These divisions are run by a board composed of:
 - a) the Commission Presidents for divisions with more than 3 Commissions;
 - b) the Presidents and vice-Presidents of Commissions for divisions with 2-3 Commissions;
 - c) the President and vice-President plus 3 other Members for divisions which are composed of 1 Commission.

Thus, each divisional board is composed of 5 ± 1 persons. These boards elect their own President.

The tasks of the divisions or rather of the divisional boards would include:

1. The endorsement of Symposia and Colloquia.
2. The organization of Joint Discussions.
3. To propose candidates for the Special Nominating Committee (requires a change in the Bye-Laws).
4. To coordinate the activities of the Commissions in the division, including the making of proposals for new Commissions, proposals for dissolving or combining existing Commissions and proposals for Working Groups.
5. To regularly report and to advise the EC, in particular by having the division Presidents attend the meetings of the EC at the time of the General Assembly.

With regard to (1), this does not change the role of the Commission Presidents, except that consultation across Commission boundaries will take place, which would seem to be very positive. Item (2) also does not much change the present situation, except, again, that consultation with all adjacent Commissions will take place. Of course, this does not in any way exclude meetings sponsored by more than one division.

Item (3): Since the divisions would have globally equal numbers, it would seem to enhance the fairness in the elections process for the Special Nominating Committee. Still, as at present, the Nominating Committee would have its role (as specified in Bye-Law 12a) to ensure that a reasonable balance of nationalities be achieved.

Concerning (4), the division structure provides a flexible framework for adapting the Commissions to evolving circumstances, without creating the feeling that such adaptation is "imposed" from the outside. Finally, with regard to (5), the present

meetings of the EC with some forty Commission Presidents hardly seem to allow effective communication to be established, while a meeting of the 12 member EC with some 12 representative division Presidents would be more practical

The Commissions that are at present Commissions of the EC should probably remain so and not become part of a division. This includes Commission 5, 6, 38, 46 and 50 which have very specific functions and which directly relate to the General Secretary.

The proposed framework for the divisional structure follows:

<u>Scientific Divisions</u>	Commissions	Members
1. Fundamental Astronomy	4, 8, 19, 24, 31	454
2. Sun & Heliosphere	10, 12, 49	763
3. (Solar System)	15, 16, 20, 21, 22	667
4. Stars	26, 29, 35, 36, 45	964
5. Variable Stars	27, 42	619
6. Interstellar Matter	34	657
7. Galactic System	33, 37	512
8. Galaxies and the Universe	28, 47	915
9. Optical Techniques	9, 25, 30	531
10. Radio Astronomy	40	752
11. Space and High Energy Astrophysics	44/48	645

Commission 14 would become a commission of the EC. For the moment Commissions 7, 41 and 51 would remain unattached to a division."