

DIVISION IV COMMISSION 36

THEORY OF STELLAR ATMOSPHERES *(THÉORIE DES ATMOSPHÈRES STELLAIRES)*

PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT
PAST PRESIDENT
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Joachim Puls
Ivan Hubeny
Martin Asplund
France Allard, Carlos Allende Prieto,
Thomas R. Ayres, Mats Carlsson,
Bengt Gustafsson, Rolf-Peter Kudritzki
Tatiana A. Ryabchikova

PROCEEDINGS BUSINESS SESSIONS, 27 August 2012

The business meeting of IAU Commission 36 took place during the GA in Beijing on August 27th, and its major topic was the re-structuring of the IAU Divisions and consequences for our Commission. The meeting was conducted by the new president, Joachim Puls, since the past president (still in charge during the GA), Martin Asplund, could not participate.

1. The new Organizing Committee

At first, Jo Puls expressed his thanks to those OC members who were leaving the OC, Svetlana V. Berdyugina, Lyudmila I. Mashonkina, Sofia Randich, and Hans G. Ludwig, for all their work, input and encouragement, and in particular, to Martin Asplund for his last-term presidency.

Then, the new vice-president, Ivan Hubeny, and four new OC members were introduced, namely France Allard, Mats Carlsson, Rolf-Peter Kudritzki, and Tanya Ryabchikova, where these colleagues had been elected by the members of Commission 36 during a very successful poll in spring 2012. (For remaining OC members, see above).

2. Discussion on the new IAU structure

The meeting continued with a presentation given by Jo Puls, concentrating on the changes which had been suggested (and approved at the end of the GA) regarding a new IAU Division structure, and potential consequences for our Commission 36 (see also IAU Information Bulletin 109). Moreover, he summarized the outcome of the business meeting of Div. IV/V, where it had been suggested that the Commissions within Div. IV and V (to be unified within the new Division G, ‘Stars and Stellar Physics’, with approx. 2100 members) may overthink their present positions and goals, and might consider a merging with other Commissions to strengthen their impact.

Because of the upcoming re-evaluation of all present Commissions by the new ‘Division Steering Committee’ (DSP), Jo Puls pointed out that there is a lot to overthink and

discuss within the OC and the Commission, accounting for the fact that within the new concept Commissions can be created and terminated on very short terms, if they turn out to be no longer efficient or useful.

Insofar, Jo Puls expressed his concerns that our Commission, particularly if we would decide to remain independent, needs to focus its activities, and provided related suggestions. Particularly, the present Commission's web-site, <http://www.usm.uni-muenchen.de/IAU-Comm-36/> might need a significant update, which would allow to spread info about our activities also to the outside, and could be particularly helpful for younger people in our community. During the following discussion, it was agreed upon to envisage a long-lasting site, independent from the actual OC members, which of course is a difficult task. Indeed, Dainis Dravins explained that an informative and useful site already existed in the past, but has 'vanished' with a changing OC.

Chris Corbally mentioned a certain chance that such web-sites could be hosted directly by the IAU, which would be ideal. Most important, however, is to have an administrator who is independent from the OC, and Jo Puls suggested to search for a 'volunteer' who is a member of the Commission (not necessarily of the OC) with a permanent position, which would allow for some longer-lasting plans and activities.

There was also agreement on another potential activity of our Commission: the OC might become involved in suggestions for conferences, symposia etc., if there is the feeling that some initiative were required.

The business meeting ended after approx. 1.5 hours with the understanding, that all this needs to be discussed in detail within the OC and the members. Corresponding actions have been already prepared.

Joachim Puls
President of the Commission