

## CHAPTER IV

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### 1. Executive Committee 2003 - 2006

##### 1.1. *Composition of the Executive Committee*

During the triennium 2003 - 2006, the Executive Committee was composed as follows:

Ronald D.	Ekers	President
Catherine J.	Cesarsky	President-Elect
Oddbjørn	Engvold	General Secretary
Karel A.	van der Hucht	Assistant General Secretary
Beatriz	Barbuy	Vice-President
Chen	Fang	Vice-President
Kenneth A.	Pounds	Vice-President
Silvia	Torres-Peimbert	Vice-President
Brian	Warner	Vice-President
Robert	Williams	Vice-President
Franco	Pacini	Adviser
Hans	Rickman	Adviser

##### 1.2. *Meetings of the Executive Committee*

The IAU Executive Committee met as follows during the triennium:

- 78th Meeting, 25-26 July 2003, during the IAU XXV General Assembly, Sydney, Australia
- 79th Meeting, 24-26 May 2004, at the Instituto de Astronomía, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, Mexico
- 80th Meeting, 18-20 April 2005, Monte Mario Osservatorio, INAF, Rome, Italy
- 81th Meeting, 13-23 August 2006, during the IAU XXVI General Assembly, Prague, Czech Republic

The business conducted by the Executive Committee is recorded in the Minutes of these meetings. Summaries of the minutes have appeared in the *IAU Information Bulletin* (IB 94, p. 30; IB 95, p. 27; and IB 97, p. 72-73).

##### 1.3. *Officers' Meetings*

Between the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Officers (President, President-Elect, General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary) met at the IAU Secretariat on 2 - 3 February 2004, on 7 - 8 February 2005, and on 27 - 28 March, 2006.

##### 1.4. *International Year of Astronomy 2009*

At its General Assembly in Sydney in July 2003, the International Astronomical Union voted unanimously in favor of a resolution asking that the year 2009 be declared the *Year of Astronomy* by the United Nations, in recognition of the significance of Galileo's

introduction of the astronomical telescope in 1609. The proclamation was subsequently prepared by the 'Year of Astronomy 2009' Working Group, and forwarded to the Executive Board of UNESCO. We were very happy that UNESCO General Conference, in October 2005, recommended that the United Nations General Assembly at its 60th session adopts a resolution declaring 2009 as the *International Year of Astronomy*. In its recommendations to the UN General Assembly, the General Conference of UNESCO recognizes "that the study of the Universe has led to numerous scientific discoveries that have great influence not only on humankind's understanding of the Universe but also on the technological, social and economic development of society" and "that astronomy proves to have great implications in the study of science, philosophy, religion and culture", The Division XII WG on *Communication Astronomy with the Public* agreed to assist the EC in developing a structure of the role and participation in this big global event, in consultation with Commission 41 on *History of Astronomy*. This WG is arranging a plenary session on the IYA in Prague.

### 1.5. Definition of a planet

The discoveries of Trans-Neptunian Object 2003 VB12 (=90377), also referred to as Sedna, and 2003 UB313, which appeared to be comparable in size to Pluto, led to the IAU to establish a definition of a planet. A new Working group of IAU Division III, called *Definition of a Planet* was created with the objective to advise the IAU on this matter. The Working Group, counting 19 members, was chaired by the Division III President, Iwan P. Williams (UK).

The difficulty that brought the whole topic to the forefront of discussion is that the boundary between (major) planet and minor planet had never been defined. In the early days this was not a problem since the gap between Mercury (the smallest planet) and Ceres (the largest minor planet) was enormous. Since Pluto was, at discovery, thought to be larger than the Earth, there still was not a problem. Indeed, even with the current value for the size of Pluto it would not be a problem (the gap from Pluto to Ceres is still large), were it not for the discovery of Trans-Neptunian Objects. Now at least one is larger than Pluto.

The Division III Working Group on *Definition of a Planet* was unable to agree on one definition of a planet, and on 15 November 2005 the WG Chair forwarded to the General Secretary a split recommendation from the WG, containing three alternative definitions which all had varied support among its members. The WG Chair subsequently informed the General Secretary that the WG had agreed that a further discussion would not lead to a consensus. The Organizing Committee of Division III accepted that the WG had completed its mission, and it formally decided that the WG be immediately discontinued. Recognizing the broad interest on this issue beyond the planetary scientist and astronomers, the Executive Committee decided to seek supplementary advice from a broader based, small Advisory Committee, before taking a decision on this matter, which was seen to be of notable concern and interest among the public and in the media.

In March 2006 the Executive Committee appointed an advisory group to the EC, on the planet issue, that should cover history of astronomy, science writing, publishing and education, plus having a solid knowledge and background in planetary sciences. The Committee was chaired by Owen Gingerich (USA). Its six members, including the President of IAU Division III, covered more than one of the named disciplines. The Committee met in Paris, 30 June – 1 July 2006, and forwarded its unanimous recommendation on 7 July to the IAU President. The Executive Committee subsequently reviewed the recommendation during a telephone conference on 24 July 2006, and appointed a sub-group

with the task to present the Committees recommendation as a Resolution by the EC to be discussed and voted on at the General Assembly in Prague.

## 2. Membership of the Union

### 2.1. National Membership

During the IAU XXV General Assembly, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, the General Assembly welcomed Nigeria, Serbia, Romania and Tadjikistan as new National Members of the IAU.

Due to five years of non-payments of dues, the CAAA National Membership was terminated (IAU Statutes §7).

### 2.2. Individual Membership

The number of new Individual Members admitted to the IAU XXV General Assembly was 894, and as of 28 July 2006 the total number of IAU Individual Members is 8488. In addition, were registered 567 Consultants. In 2006 the IAU National Committees for Astronomy (NCA) were asked to update their membership lists and report to the IAU Secretariat who were no longer active members and who should no longer remain Individual Members. The advice and recommendations thus received from the NCAs led to the current number of Individual Members stated above.

The IAU Executive is saddened to report the death of the following 172 members of the Union, which have been reported to the IAU Secretariat since the IAU XXV General Assembly:

John G. Ables	Tateos A. Agekjan	Ko Aizu
Lawrence Hugh Aller	Gennadij V. Andreev	Horace W. Babcock
John N. Bahcall	James Gilbert Baker	Norman H. Baker
Vassilios Barbanis	Arvind Bhatnagar	Richard G. Bingham
J. G. Bolton	Hermann Bondi	Semion Ya Ag Braude
Nina M. Bronnikova	Anton Bruzek	William Buscombe
Bruno Caccin	Alastair G.W. Cameron	Henri Camichel
John H. Carver	Vittorio Castellani	Joseph W. Chamberlain
Nikolaj S. Chernykh	Yves Chmielewski	Rafael Cid Palacios
G. Colombo	Alan H. Cook	Pierre Cugnon
N. Dallaporta	Leverett Davis Jr	John Alan Dawe
Willem de Graaff	T. de Groot	Juan J. de Orus
Chr. de Vejt	Aleksandr N. Deutsch	Lorant Dezsö
Jerzy Dobrzycki	Geoffrey G. Douglass	Robert A. Duncan
Richard B. Dunn	Nikolai Dzubenko	Hans Elsaesser
Donald J. Faulkner	Walter A. Feibelman	Michel C. Festou
Mikhail S. Frolov	Igor A. Gerasimov	Daniel Gerbal
Robert Glebocki	Nzhet Gökdogan	Thomas Gold
Friedrich Gondolatsch	Shumo Gong	S. I. Gopasyuk
Vitalij G. Gorbatsky	Fumihiko Hagio	Anton Hajduk
R. Glenn Hall	Emilios Harlaftis	Gerald S. Hawkins
Wulff D. Heintz	Helmut Wilhelm Hellwig	Hartmut Holweger
Reiun Hoshi	Charles Latif Hyder	George R. Isaak
Theodor S. Jacobsen	Tadeusz Jarzebowski	Mihkel Jever
Henry Emil Kandrup	Boris L. Kashscheev	Sidney Kenderdine
Vera L. Khokhlova	Michael J. Klein	I. G. Kolchinskij

N. S. Komarov	Vladimir A. Kotelnikov	John D. Kraus
L. Kresak	Petr G. Kulikovskij	Barry James LaBonte
Trudpert Lederle	Michael James Ledlow	Vojtech Letfus
Jacques R. Lvy	J. Virginia Lincoln	Alexander M. Lozinskij
Per E. Maltby	Gyorgy Marx	Janet Akyz Mattei
Cornell H. Mayer	Paul J. Melchior	Marie-Odile Mennessier
Klaus Metz	Rolf Mewe	Harry C. Minnet
Ljubisa A. Mitic	Vasilij I. Moroz	Philip Morrison
Mirta B. Mosconi	Andreas B. Muller	C. A. Muller Jr
Sergij Musatenko	Saken O. Obashev	Franco Occhionero
J. Beverley Oke	Mikhail Orlov	J. Oro
Ludwig F. Oster	Lucia Padrielli	John L. Perdrix
Charles L. Perry	Alain Peton	Jack H. Piddington
A. Keith Pierce	Girolamo Pinto	John Polygiannakis
Jason G. Porter	John M. Porter	Neil A. Porter
Kevin H. Prendergast	Helen Dodson Prince	Yurij P. Pskovskij
Tamara B. Pyatunina	Gibson Reaves	James Ring
Ralph Robert Robbins	Brian J. Robinson	Marcello Rodon
Douglas H. Sampson	Hans Schmidt	Egon H. Schroeter
Aleksandr S. Sharov	William M. Sinton	Akira M. Sinzi
George M. Sisson	Humphry M. Smith	Mattheus A.J. Snijders
Gunnar Sorensen	Arnold A. Stepanian	Gerard A. Stevens
Jrgen D. Stock	Ronald Cecil Stone	Aleksandr A. Stotskii
Winardi Sutantyo	Peter A. Sweet	J. T.I. Tavares
Volodymyr Tel'nyuk-Adamchuk	Dirk Ter Haar	Richard Q. Twiss
Anne B. Underhill	Seppo I. Urpo	J. van Nieuwkoop
Paul Verbeek	Franco Verniani	Jean-Pierre Vigier
Yurij I. Vitinskij	Richard L. Walker Jr	Dennis Walsh
Willem Wamsteker	Lai Wan	James A. Westphal
Fred L. Whipple	Raymond E. White	John R. Winckler
Kiyoshi Yabuuti	Boris F. Yudin	Shigeru Yumi
D. Zulevic		

### 3. Divisions, Commissions and Working Groups

#### 3.1. *Working Groups of the Executive Committee*

The EC Working Groups on *Women in Astronomy* and on *The Year of Astronomy 2009* were created at the General Assembly in Sydney. A new Advisory Committee for the IAU Executive Committee, on Impact Threats to the Earth, is being proposed for decision at the IAU XXVI General Assembly in Prague.

#### 3.2. *Working Groups of Divisions and Commissions*

A new Working Group on *Communication Astronomy with the Public* under Division XII was created in 2004.

#### 3.3. *Minor Planet Center*

The present contract between the host of IAU's Minor Planet Center (MPC), the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA, USA) and the IAU expires by the end of the

IAU XXVI General Assembly in August 2006, unless a new agreement would be in place by then. Extensive discussions with the CfA Director, Dr. Charles Alcock and the IAU Negotiation Team led to a Memorandum of Agreement that will ensure the continued operation of the IAU Minor Planet Center, with financial support from NASA, at Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. This MoA was signed by the CfA Director and by the IAU General Secretary on 5 June 2006.

In July 2006 the IAU General Secretary was informed by the leadership of CfA and the MPC, that Dr. Brian Marsden (USA) would resign as MPC Director by end of the IAU General Assembly in Prague and that Dr. Timothy B. Spahr (USA) would take over, as interim Director.

### 3.4. *Reviewing of Commissions and Working Groups*

It is an expressed aim of the Union to ensure that it is relevant and serves the best interest of its membership as well as the non-astronomical World. The Commissions, Working Groups and Programme Groups are the bodies upon which the Unions scientific research and educational activities are based. In accordance with the IAU Statutes and Bye-Laws, these bodies shall therefore be reviewed by their parent Divisions every three years. Based on the result of these reviews the Divisions have forwarded their recommendations to the IAU Executive Committee about necessary changes in the current structure in order to meet the demand and challenges for the next triennium and beyond.

This implies that some Commissions, WGs and PGs, may be subject to notable changes, or even be discontinued, and that entirely new bodies will be needed to deal with new fields or activities of concern to IAU. Since all Commissions and the large majority of WGs and PGs have existed for more than six years already, these decisions will be made at the first meeting of the EC at IAU XXVI GA, in consultations with the IAU Division Presidents.

## 4. Scientific activities

### 4.1. *Scientific meetings*

The number of IAU Symposia and Colloquia supported in the previous years are, respectively: six and four in 2003, five and three in 2004, six and three in 2005, and there will be a total of nine Symposia in 2006, of which six will be held at the General Assembly. The location and dates of these various events are given from the list of publications below.

Two Regional IAU Meetings were supported in 2005, namely the 9th APRIM in Bali, Indonesia, 26-29 July, and the 11th LARIM in Pucón, Chile, 12-16 December.

### 4.2. *Publications*

Given the large number of international meetings every year of the size of IAU Colloquia, and given the fact that organization of these meetings can usually be handled on a time scale shorter than the IAU would do it, the EC decided at its 80th Meeting in Rome, April 2005, that the IAU support for international meetings will from then on be given to, on the average, nine IAU Symposia every year. The support for two Regional IAU Meetings in years between General Assemblies will remain a high priority.

The following are IAU Proceedings published in 2003-2006.

#### 4.2.1. *IAU Transactions, published in 2003-2006*

Transactions of the International Astronomical Union  
Volume XXVA, Reports on Astronomy 1999-2002

Ed. Hans Rickman

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN 1-58381-137-0

4.2.2. *IAU Symposium Proceedings, published in 2003-2006*

Published by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, USA (print):

IAU S199

The Universe at Low Radio Frequencies

30 November - 4 December 1999, Pune, India

Eds. A. Pramesh Rao, G. Swarup & Gopal-Krishna

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN 1-58381-121-4, 2003

IAU S201

New Cosmological Data and the Values of the Fundamental Parameters

7-11 August 2000, Manchester, United Kingdom

Eds. A. N. Lasenby & A. Wilkinson

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-212-1, February 2006

IAU S202

Planetary Systems in the Universe - Observation, Formation and Evolution

7-11 August 2000, Manchester, United Kingdom

Eds. A. J. Penny, P. Artymowicz, A.-M. Lagrange & S. S. Russell

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-176-1, February 2005

IAU S206

Cosmic Masers: from Protostars to Blackholes

5-10 March 2001, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Eds. V. Migenes & M. J. Reid

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN 1-58381-112-5, 2003

IAU S208

Astrophysical Supercomputing Using Particle Simulations

10-13 July 2001, Tokyo, Japan

Eds. J. Makino & P. Hut

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-139-7, 2003

IAU S209

Planetary Nebulae: their Evolution and Role in the Universe

19-23 November 2001, Canberra, Australia

Eds. S. Kwok, M. Dopita & R. Sutherland

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-148-6, 2003

IAU S210

Modelling of Stellar Atmospheres

17-21 June 2002, Uppsala, Sweden

Eds. N. Piskunov, W. W. Weis & D. F. Gray

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-160-5, February 2004

IAU S211

Brown Dwarfs

20-24 May 2002, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA

Ed. E. Martn

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-132-X, 2003

IAU S212

A Massive Star Odyssey: from Main Sequence to Supernova

24-28 June 2002, Lanzarote, Canary Island, Spain

Eds. K. A. van der Hucht, A. Herrero & C. Esteban

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-133-8, February 2003

IAU S213

Bioastronomy 2002: Life Among the Stars

8-12 July 2002, Hamilton Island, Great Barrier Reef, Australia

Eds. R. P. Norris & F. H. Stootman

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-171-0, July 2004

IAU S214

High Energy Processes and Phenomena in Astrophysics

6-10 August 2002, Suzhou, China

Eds. Xiang Dong Li, V. L. Trimble & Z. R. Wang

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-157-5, January 2004

IAU S215

Stellar Rotation

8-12 November 2002, Cancun, Mexico

Eds. A. Maeder & P. R. J. Eenens

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-180-X, November 2004

IAU S216

Maps of the Cosmos

14-17 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. M. Colless & L. Staveley-Smith

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-202-4, September 2005

IAU S217

Recycling Intergalactic and Interstellar Matter

14-17 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. P.-A. Duc, J. Braine & E. Brinks

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-166-4, June 2004

IAU S218

Young Neutron Stars and Their Environment

14-17 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. F. M. Camilo & B. M. Gaensler

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-178-8b, December 2004

IAU S219

Stars as Suns: Activity, Evolution and Planets

21-25 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. A. K. Dupree & A. O. Benz

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-163-X, September 2003

IAU S220

Dark Matter in Galaxies

21-25 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. S. D. Ryder, D. J. Pisano, M. A. Walker & K. C. Freeman

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-167-2, July 2004

IAU S221

Star Formation at High Angular Resolution

22-25 July 2003, Sydney, Australia

Eds. M. Burton, R. Jayawardhana & T. Bourke

(San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-161-3, September 2004

Published by Cambridge University Press, UK (print and on-line):

(e-book see: < <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=IAU> >)

IAU S222

The Interplay among Black Holes, Stars and ISM in Galactic Nuclei

1-5 March 2004, Gramado, Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil

Eds. Th. Storchi-Bergmann, L. C. Ho & H. R. Schmitt

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-84803-2, November 2004

IAU S223

Multi-Wavelength Investigations of Solar Activity

14-19 June 2004, St. Petersburg, Russia

Eds. A. V. Stepanov, E. E. Benevolenskaya & A. G. Kosovichev

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85195-5, April 2005

IAU S224

The A-Star Puzzle

8-13 July 2004, Poprad, Slovakia

Eds. J. Zverko, W. W. Weiss, J. Ziznovsky & S. J. Adelman

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85018-5, March 2005

IAU S225

Impact of Gravitational Lensing on Cosmology

19-23 July, 2004, Lausanne, Switzerland

Eds. Y. Mellier & G. Meylan

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85196-3, June 2005

IAU S226

Coronal and Stellar Mass Ejections

13-17 September 2004, Beijing, China

Eds. K. P. Dere, Jingxiu Wang & Yihua Yan

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85197-1, June 2005

IAU S227

Massive Star Birth: A Crossroads of Astrophysics

16-20 May 2005, Catania, Sicily, Italy



Eds. R. Cesaroni, M. Felli, E. Churchwell & C. M. Walmsley  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-82198-X, November 2005

IAU S228

From Lithium to Uranium: Elemental Tracers of Early Cosmic Evolution  
23-27 May 2005, Paris, France

Eds. V. Hill, P. Francois & F. Primas  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85199-8, December 2005

IAU S229

Asteroids, Comets, Meteors  
7-12 August 2005, Bzios, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Eds. D. Lazzaro, S. Ferraz-Mello & J. A. Fernández  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85200-5, March 2006

IAU S230

Populations of High-Energy Sources in Galaxies  
15-19 August 2005, Dublin, Ireland

Eds. E. J. A. Meurs & G. Fabbiano  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85201-3, May 2006

IAU S231

Astrochemistry: Recent Successes and Current Challenges  
29 August - 2 September 2005, Monterey, CA, USA

Eds. D. C. Lis, G. A. Blake & E. Herbst  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85202-1, March 2006

IAU S232

The Scientific Requirements for Extremely Large Telescopes  
14-18 November 2005, Cape Town, South Africa

Eds. P. A. Whitelock, M. Dennefeld & B. Leibundgut  
(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85608-6, May 2006

4.2.3. *IAU Colloquium Proceedings, published in 2003 - 2006*

IAU C189

Astrophysical Tides: Effects in the Solar and Exoplanetary Systems  
16-20 September, 2002 Nanjing, China

Eds. S. Ferraz-Mello & I. P. Williams  
Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy 87 (Kluwer), Nos.1-2, 2003

IAU C190

Magnetic Cataclysmic Variables  
8-13 December 2002, Cape Town, South Africa

Eds. S. Vrielmann & M. Cropper  
ASP-CS 315 (San Francisco: ASP) ISBN 1-58381-170-2, December 2004

IAU C191

The Environments and Evolution of Double and Multiple Stars

3-7 February 2003, Merida, Yucatán, Mexico

Eds. C. Allen & C. Scarfe

(Mexico: UNAM) RevMexAA-SC Vol. 21, ISBN: 970-32-0607-7, August 2004

IAU C192

Supernovae (10 years of SN1993J)

22-26 April 2003, Valencia, Spain

Eds. J. M. Marcaide & K. W. Weiler

Book title: Cosmic Explosions. On the 10th Anniversary of SN1993J

(Heidelberg: Springer) Springer-PP 99, ISBN 3-540-23039-4, October 2004

IAU C193

Variable Stars in the Local Group

6-11 July 2003, Christchurch, New Zealand

Eds. D. W. Kurtz & K. R. Pollard

ASP-CS 310 (San Francisco: ASP) ISBN 1-58381-162-1, May 2004

IAU C194

Compact Binaries in the Galaxy and Beyond

17-22 November 2003, La Paz, B.C. Sur, Mexico

Eds. G. Tovmassian & E. M. Sion

(Mexico: UNAM) RevMexAA-SC Vol. 20, ISBN: 970-32-1185-5, July 2004

Published by Cambridge University Press, UK (print and on-line):

(e-book see: < <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=IAU> >)

IAU C195

Outskirts of Galaxy Clusters: Intense Life in the Suburbs

12-16 March 2004, Torino, Italia

Ed. A. Diaferio

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-84908-X, October 2004

IAU C196

Transits of Venus: New Views of the Solar System and Galaxy

7-11 June 2004, Preston, U.K.

Ed. D. W. Kurtz

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-84907-1, May 2005

IAU C197

Dynamics of Populations of Planetary Systems

31 August - 4 September 2004, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro

Eds. Z. Knezevic & A. Milani

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85203-X, February 2005

IAU C198

Near-field Cosmology with Dwarf Elliptical Galaxies

14-18 March 2005, Les Diablerets, Switzerland

Eds. H. Jerjen & B. Binggeli

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85204-8, November 2005

## IAU C199

Probing Galaxies through Quasar Absorption Lines

14-18 March 2005, Shanghai, China

Eds. P.R. Williams, Chenggang Shu & B. Mnard

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85205-6, October 2005

## IAU C200

Direct Imaging of Exoplanets: Science and Techniques

3-7 October 2005, Nice, France

Eds. C. Aime & F. Vakili

(Cambridge: CUP) ISBN 0-521-85607-8, May 2006

At the end of 2005, the IAU Colloquium series was terminated, at the benefit of the expansion of the IAU Symposium series.

#### 4.2.4. *Proceedings of Regional IAU Meetings, published in 2003-2006*

Proc. 8th Asian-Pacific Regional IAU Meeting, Vol. I

2-5 July 2002, Tokyo, Japan

Eds. S. Ikeuchi, J. Hearnshaw & T. Hanawa

ASP-CS 289 (San Francisco: ASP) ISBN: 1-58381-134-6, 2003

Proc. 9th Asian-Pacific Regional IAU Meeting (APRIM 2005)

26-29 July 2005, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia

Eds. W. Sutantyo, P. W. Premadi, P. Mahasena, T. Hidayat & S. Mineshige

(Bandung: ITB Press) ISBN 979-3507-63-2, March 2006

Proc. 11th Latin-American Regional IAU Meeting (LARIM 2005)

12-16 December 2005, Pucón, Chile

Eds. M. Rubio, L. Infante & S. Torres-Peimbert

Revista Mexicana de Astronomia y Astrofisica - Serie de Conferencias,

(in press, due August 2006)

For a complete list of Proceedings Regional IAU Meetings, please check:

< [http://www.iau.org/Regional\\_Meetings.121.0.html](http://www.iau.org/Regional_Meetings.121.0.html) >

#### 4.3. *IAU Publisher*

The contract with the IAU Publisher, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific - Book Publishing Company (ASP), expired in 2003, and the Executive Committee resolved that a new publishing strategy should be worked out in the contract with the a Publisher. It was decided to go for an electronic version of the IAU Proceedings of IAU Symposia and Colloquia, supplemented by a paper. A Call for Tender of the IAU Proceedings Series was issued in the fall of 2003, and a contract was signed with Cambridge University Press (Cambridge, UK), February 2004.

It shall be noted that the IAU is formally a business partner in the new contract with the CUP and thereby will be sharing the net income from the book sales.

An IAU Editorial Board was created to ensure good communication between the Publisher and the Editors of the individual Proceedings, which also would serve to shorten

the time between the time of a meeting and the publication of the corresponding Proceedings. The Editorial Board is chaired by the Assistant General Secretary. For the past two years the average lead time for publishing of individual IAU Proceedings range commonly between six and nine months, which signals a very positive development and improvement compared to earlier years.

## 5. Educational activities

Educational programmes under IAU Commission 46 on *Astronomy Education and Development* represent a high priority activity and responsibility of the IAU. The Executive Committee recognizes the many successful and promising results from its Program Groups.

### 5.1. *Commission 46 PG International Schools for Young Astronomers*

The Program Group on *International Schools for Young Astronomers* (PG-ISYA) arranged very successful ISYAs in Morocco in 2004 and in Mexico in 2005. We refer to reports of these in IAU *Information Bulletins* no. 96 (pp. 29-30) and 97 (pp. 74-76).

### 5.2. *Commission 46 PG World Wide Development of Astronomy*

The Program Group on *World Wide Development of Astronomy* (PG-WWDA) has initiated and conducted wide reaching programs and promotion of interest for astronomy in developing countries. An overview of visits to Mongolia, Kenya, Thailand, Iraq, Cuba, Trinidad and Tobago is given in IAU *Information Bulletin* no. 98, pp. 71-74.

### 5.3. *Commission 46 PGs Teaching Astronomy for Development and Exchange of Astronomers*

The Program Groups on *Teaching Astronomy for Development and Exchange of Astronomers* (PG-TAD and PG-EA) initiated a new program at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco in July, 2004.

## 6. Relations with other scientific organizations

### 6.1. *ICSU*

The International Council for Science (ICSU) has prepared a strategic plan for 2006-2012 with the objective to identify the continued needs for a strong, independent scientific organization like ICSU in a rapidly changing World. Of concern and interest to the IAU are in particular ICSU's establishing of Regional Offices in regions where also the IAU promotes astronomy education, a programme that identifies Natural and Human-Induced Hazards and ICSU's Principle of Universality. The IAU is grouped in a relatively loose cluster structure with 5 Geo-Unions of ICSU. The idea is that grouping of its current 27 member Unions in so-called clusters will stimulate Inter-Union collaboration.

The planning of the International Polar Year 2007-2008, which is part of the ICSU strategy for 2006-2011, is progressing well.

ICSU is greatly concerned about the continuing problem of obtaining in time visa for scientists from, in particular, Asian and Arabic countries, to attend scientific meetings in some countries. The problem is gradually becoming more wide-spread. ICSU follows the situation closely and it has offered to provide an overview of the increased lead time for visa applications to various countries.

## 6.2. CODATA

Astronomy is in the forefront of taking advantage of new technological opportunities to accelerate the quality and effectiveness of its science. As a result, our science faces great challenges in managing increasing amount of data. Our science is under time pressure to develop and agree on a set of guiding principles for how to manage astronomical data. IAU Commission 5's Working Group on *Astronomical Data*, chaired by Ray Norris, has been actively involved in a consortium under ICSU and CODATA in developing guidelines for safeguarding the future of astronomical data. As astronomers we are also accustomed to enjoy the freedom to establish open access to astronomical data bases in collaboration with colleagues across all borders on this planet. Many of us have been comfortably unaware of recent legal threats to this privilege and the successful war that has been endured by and won on our behalf by ICSU and CODATA to safeguard this important condition for fostering and promoting scientific co-operations.

## 6.3. FAGS

The ICSU General Assembly, held in Suzhou, China in October 2005, decided to extend ICSU's sponsorship of the Interdisciplinary Services called *Federation of Astronomical and geophysical Data Analysis Services* (FAGS) for an additional period of three years, during which FAGS will continue to fulfill its role of coordination among the Services, while ICSU examines integration of this function within its activities in data and information.

## 6.4. UN-COPUOS

The IAU representative to the UN Committee on Peaceful Use of the Outer Space (UN-COPUOS), IAU Assistant General Secretary Karel A. van der Hucht, attended the annual sessions of the Scientific and Technical Sub-committee of UN-COPUOS. His addresses and overview of relevant IAU activities were well received.

## 6.5. OECD Global Science Forum

The OECD Global Science Forum has arranged two Workshops on *Future Large-Scale Projects and Programmes in Astronomy and Astrophysics* in, respectively, 2003 and 2004, with participation of members from the IAU Executive Committee. The Workshops recognized that ground-based and space-based observatories are vital and complementary for the future astronomy.

## 6.6. IAU Representatives to international organizations 2003-2006

	<i>Organization</i>	<i>IAU Representative</i>
ICSU	International Council for Science	Oddbjørn Engvold
BIPM	Bureau International des Poids et Mesures	
— CETF	Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency	Toshio Fukushima
— CCU	Consultative Committee for Units	Nicole Capitaine
CIE	Compagnie Internationale de l'Éclairage	Syuzo Isobe (†)
CODATA	Committee on Data for Science and Technology	Raymond P. Norris
COSPAR	Committee on Space Research	
— Council		Hans Rickman
— SC B	Space Studies of the Earth-Moon System, Planets and Small Bodies of the Solar System	Mikhail Ya. Marov
— SC D	Space Plasmas in the Solar System, including Planetary Magnetospheres	Marek Vandas

— SC E	Research in Astrophysics from Space	
— SC E1	Galactic and Extragalactic Astrophysics	G. Srinivasan
— SC E2	The Sun as a Star	Arnold O. Benz
FAGS	Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Services	Nicole Capitaine
IAF	International Astronautical Federation	Einar A. Tandberg-Hanssen
IERS	International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service	Henk Olthof
		Jan Vondrak (until 2004)
		Nicole Capitaine
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme	Richard G. Strom
IHY	International Heliophysical Year	David F. Webb
ISES	International Space Environment Service	Helen E. Coffey
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	
— ITU-R	Radiocommunication Bureau	William J. Klepczynski
		Tomas E. Gergely
		Masatoshi Ohishi
IUCAF	Scientific Committee on Frequency Allocations for Radio Astronomy and Space Sciences	Kenneth F. Tapping
		Darrel T. Emerson
		Jim Cohen
IUPAP	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry	Hans Rickman
— C4	Commission on Cosmic Rays	Heinrich J. Voelk
— C19	Commission on Astrophysics	Virginia L. Trimble
IVS	International VLBI Service for Geodesy and Astrometry	Patrick T. Wallace
SCAR	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research	John W.V. Storey
SCOPE	Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment	Derek McNally
SCOSTEP	Scientific Committee on Space and Upper Atmosphere Research	Brigitte Schmieder
UN-COPUOS	UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	Karel A. van der Hucht
URSI	Union Radio-Scientifique Internationale	Luis F. Rodriguez

## 7. Financial matters

The table in Appendix II comprises the Budget, Income and Expenditure for the years 2003-2005, and the Budget for 2006. The proposed Budget for 2007-2009 is presented in chapter II, p. 30, (Appendix I) of these Proceedings. The Budget for 2003-2006 was approved by the previous General Assembly. Triennial accounts for the years 2003-2005 have been certified by the IAU Auditor, Msr. Arnaud de Boisanger.

The Finance Sub-Committee, chaired by Dr. Robert W. Milkey, provided most helpful advice and guidance to the General Secretary on all financial matters of the Union.

### 7.1. *Comments on Income*

As in previous years, the main source of income is the yearly dues from the Adhering Organizations. An increased minor income is foreseen from sales of IAU Proceedings in accordance with the contract with the new IAU Publisher.

### 7.2. *Comments on Expenditure*

The expenditure excess of general office expenses is due to the extra cost of creating and implementing a new IAU data base and web server in 2005. The IAU Executive Committee accepted this extra expense at its 81st meeting 18-20 April 2005 in Rome.

A major part of the bank expenditure in 2004 and 2005 was balanced in January 2006 by a back-payment from the ABN AMRO bank.

### 7.3. *Comments on Budget*

The budget for the years 2007-2009 was approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting April 18-20, 2005, in Rome. The Executive Committee recommended, at the

same meeting, an increase of the staff in the IAU Office in Paris, which is reflected in the proposed increase in salaries of the administrative staff.

## 8. Administrative matters

### 8.1. *Revision of Statutes, Bye-Laws and Working Rules*

The IAU XXV General Assembly adopted a major revision of the Statutes and Bye-Laws. These changes were followed by a thorough revision of the IAU Working Rules which were adopted by the Executive Committee at its 80th Meeting in Rome 2005. As a result of the revised Statutes and Bye-Laws, the EC resolved to modify the Working Rules accordingly.

A few minor changes in the Statutes and Bye-Laws will be presented for voting at the General Assembly in Prague. These modifications concern the voting on issues of primarily scientific nature at General Assemblies, the nomination of Individual Members and the range number of dues units that are available for the National Members annual contributions to the IAU.

### 8.2. *Miscellaneous*

At its 80th Meeting in Rome in April 2005, the Executive Committee adopted a set of guidelines to advise countries inviting to host of IAU General Assemblies.

In July 2005 the IAU General Secretary signed a contract with the company Oxford Abstracts to host the server for submission of all abstracts to scientific events of the IAU General Assembly. The submitted abstracts were reviewed for decision separately by the 29 event organizers. At the closing of the abstract submission on 26 June 2006, a total of close to 2,400 accepted abstracts were downloaded from the server and prepared for inclusion in the Abstract Book. This task was previously handled by the General Assembly organizers, and from the experience gained this time the Executive Committee will decide whether it is a solution for future General Assemblies.

The IAU Secretariat has since 1988 enjoyed the privilege to use office space and one storage room in the building of the Institute d'Astrophysique (IAP), 98bis bd Arago, Paris. A new contract between the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and the IAU for IAP's continued hosting of the IAU Secretariat was signed in July 2006.

The IAU decided in January 2006 to discontinue its more than 70 years of banking relation with ABN AMRO in Utrecht, the Netherlands, due to a long-lasting dispute concerning transfer of funds to Sydney in 2003. The bank finally accepted its mistake.

### 8.3. *Update of Data Base and Web Site*

The IAU data base, which initially was located in Uppsala, Sweden, was transferred to a server of the Institute d'Astrophysique, Paris, during the early phase of this triennial.

An upgrading of the IAU web server was due for quite some time and this work started in 2004. The IAU Secretariat became involved in a painstaking detailed planning of the structure and layout of the new data base and server, and the follow-up and checking as the work progressed. The work with the data base and the web site was contracted with the AMEOS company in Strasbourg, and the layout of the actual web pages were done by Ms Alice de Miramon. The local staff of the IAU Secretariat Mme Claire Vidonne and Mme Monique Orine are thanked for their conscientious and invaluable work with the data base and server that has led to the new data base and web site that became available for use of the membership in January 2006.

Among the new features available with the new system is the Individual Member's web page form which enables them to check and, when necessary, notify the IAU Secretariat

about changes or corrections of ones personal profile. The updated membership list has led to the issuing an IAU Newsletter at semi-regular intervals, in addition to the IAU *Information Bulletin* that is normally issued twice per year, which serves to keep the membership updated on the work and activities of the Union.

#### 8.4. *Secretariat*

The IAU Secretariat is dealing with a steadily increasing workload on the two employées, Executive Assistant Mme Monique Léger-Orine and Administrative Assistant Mme Claire Vidonne. The dedication and efficiency in their work for the IAU are gratefully appreciated. In order to ensure adequate maintenance and necessary upgrading on the IAU computer systems, one has signed contracts with Msr. Laurent Pezeron, who is paid by the hour. Additional, part time personnel was being hired to assist in the work of the Secretariat when necessary.

The proposed budget for 2007 - 2009 takes note of the need to strengthen the personnel situation of the IAU Secretariat.



## APPENDIX II

## TRIENNIUM 2003 - 2005

## STATEMENT OF INCOME (CHF)

<b>INCOME</b> <i>BUDGET</i>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2003 - '05</b>	<b>2006</b>
unit of contribution	3 260	3 355	3 460		3 580
adjustment for inflation	2.7%	3%	3.2%		3.4%
number of units	260	262	262		262
Adhering Organizations	888 217 <i>847 600</i>	776 695 <i>879 010</i>	1 169 999 <i>906 520</i>	2 834 911 <i>2 633 130</i>	<i>937 960</i>
royalties IAU proceedings	27 237 <i>25 000</i>	13 748 <i>15 000</i>	3 831 <i>15 000</i>	44 852 <i>55 000</i>	<i>15 000</i>
ICSU / UNESCO	6 500 --	-- --	-- --	6 500 --	--
ICSU / UNESCO (NEO book project)	-- <i>15 000</i>	114 000 --	-- --	114 000 <i>15 000</i>	--
UNESCO (ISYA Argentina)	1 385 --	-- --	-- --	1 385 --	--
ESO / ESA grants for GA 2003	77 197 --	-- --	-- --	77 197 --	--
PGF Fellowships	-- --	90 971 --	-- --	90 971 --	--
bank interest	7 839 <i>25 000</i>	6 843 <i>25 000</i>	19 657 <i>25 000</i>	34 338 <i>75 000</i>	<i>25 000</i>
refunds	2 449 --	66 195 --	9 869 --	78 512 --	--
gain on exchange 1 Jan. of the year	7 557 --	-- --	39 923 --	47 480 --	--
gain on internal transfers	3 717 --	21 --	-- --	3 738 --	--
<b>total INCOME</b>	<b>1 022 134</b> <i>912 600</i>	<b>1 068 473</b> <i>919 010</i>	<b>1 243 279</b> <i>946 520</i>	<b>3 333 883</b> <i>2 778 130</i>	<i>977 960</i>

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE (CHF)

<b>EXPENDITURE BUDGET</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2003 - '05</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>General Assemblies</b>					
GA grants	242 412 <i>220 000</i>	-- --	-- --	242 412 <i>220 000</i>	<i>235 000</i>
operations	32 753 <i>45 000</i>	8 681 <i>4 000</i>	6 743 <i>4 000</i>	48 177 <i>53 000</i>	<i>45 000</i>
<i>sub-sub-total GAs</i>	<i>275 165</i> <i>265 000</i>	<i>8 681</i> <i>4 000</i>	<i>6 743</i> <i>4 000</i>	<i>290 589</i> <i>273 000</i>	<i>280 000</i>
<b>Meetings</b>					
Symposium / Colloquium grants	198 001 <i>240 000</i>	180 000 <i>280 000</i>	182 000 <i>280 000</i>	560 001 <i>800 000</i>	<i>280 000</i>
Regional IAU Meeting grants	-- --	-- <i>30 000</i>	50 000 <i>30 000</i>	50 000 <i>60 000</i>	--
co-sponsored meetings	6 000 --	5 000 --	-- --	11 000 --	--
<i>sub-sub-total Meetings</i>	<i>204 001</i> <i>240 000</i>	<i>185 000</i> <i>310 000</i>	<i>232 000</i> <i>310 000</i>	<i>621 001</i> <i>860 000</i>	<i>280 000</i>
<b>Working Groups</b>					
EC Working Groups	2 135 <i>5 000</i>	4 000 <i>7 000</i>	-- <i>7 000</i>	6 135 <i>19 000</i>	<i>7 000</i>
Commission Working Groups	5 820 <i>5 000</i>	1 210 <i>7 000</i>	9 045 <i>7 000</i>	16 075 <i>19 000</i>	<i>7 000</i>
Minor Planet Center	6 000 <i>6 000</i>	8 000 <i>8 000</i>	8 000 <i>8 000</i>	22 000 <i>22 000</i>	<i>8 000</i>
CB for Astronomical Telegrams	4 000 <i>4 000</i>	4 000 <i>4 000</i>	4 000 <i>4 000</i>	12 000 <i>12 000</i>	<i>4 000</i>
Meteor Data Center	-- <i>1 100</i>	-- <i>1 500</i>	-- <i>1 500</i>	-- <i>4 100</i>	<i>1 500</i>
NEO study and book	-- --	114 000 --	- 3 170 --	110 830 --	--
<i>sub-sub-total Working Groups</i>	<i>17 955</i> <i>21 100</i>	<i>131 210</i> <i>27 500</i>	<i>17 875</i> <i>27 500</i>	<i>167 040</i> <i>76 100</i>	<i>27 500</i>
<i>sub-total SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>497 121</i> <i>526 100</i>	<i>324 891</i> <i>341 500</i>	<i>256 618</i> <i>341 500</i>	<i>1 078 630</i> <i>1 209 100</i>	<i>587 500</i>

	2003	2004	2005	2003 - '05	2006
<b>EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES</b>					
PG-ISYA	--	45 939	44 917	90 856	
	--	45 000	45 000	90 000	--
PG-TAD	40 557	18 636	10 951	70 144	
	40 000	45 000	45 000	130 000	45 000
PG-WWDA	10 000	14 532	6 144	30 676	
	--	10 000	10 000	20 000	10 000
PG-EA	6 440	3 690	8 605	18 735	
	10 000	15 000	15 000	40 000	15 000
PGF Fellowships	37 055	54 430	18 494	109 979	
	--	--	--	--	--
<i>sub-total EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES</i>	94 052	137 227	89 111	320 390	
	50 000	115 000	115 000	280 000	70 000
<b>DELEGATES TO OTHER UNIONS</b>					
	9 554	13 470	10 929	33 953	
	10 000	10 000	10 000	30 000	10 000
<b>DUES TO OTHER UNIONS</b>					
ICSU	15 283	14 256	16 660	41 199	
	17 000	20 000	20 000	57 000	20 000
IERS/FAGS	7 500	7 500	--	15 000	
	7 500	7 500	7 500	22 500	7 500
IUCAF	7 500	7 500	7 500	22 500	
	7 500	7 500	7 500	22 500	7 500
<i>sub-total DUES TO OTHER UNIONS</i>	30 283	29 256	24 160	83 699	
	32 000	35 000	35 000	102 000	35 000
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>					
Officers' Meetings	14 516	13 334	15 348	43 198	
	6 000	5 500	5 500	17 000	5 500
Executive Committee Meetings	62 631	39 050	66 634	168 315	
	75 000	35 000	60 000	170 000	60 000
General Secretary	32 054	16 547	29 540	78 141	
	30 000	30 000	30 000	90 000	30 000
Assistant General Secretary	489	836	2 803	4 128	
	2 000	2 000	2 000	6 000	2 000
President	--	--	3 082	3 082	
	1 000	2 000	2 000	5 000	2 000
<i>sub-total EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</i>	109 690	69 767	117 407	296 864	
	114 000	74 500	99 500	288 000	99 500

	2003	2004	2005	2003 - '05	2006
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>					
Information Bulletin	28 213 30 000	10 142 10 000	8 436 10 000	46 791 30 000	10 000
Distribution IB	5 571 10 000	-- 10 000	-- 10 000	5 571 30 000	10 000
reimbursement ASP GA-XXV preordering	-- --	61 319 --	-- --	61 319 --	--
<i>sub-total PUBLICATIONS</i>	33 784 40 000	71 461 20 000	8 436 20 000	113 681 80 000	20 000
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>					
salaries and charges	175 088 175 000	192 772 175 000	198 461 175 000	566 321 525 000	175 000
training courses	1 476 5 000	-- 5 000	925 5 000	2 401 15 000	5 000
general office expenses	100 461 72 000	82 012 82 000	131 237 82 000	313 710 236 000	82 000
auditor	2 401 2 500	2 500 2 500	-- 2 500	4 901 7 500	2 500
bank charges	12 684 4 000	25 733 4 000	18 128 4 000	56 545 12 000	4 000
loss on internal transfers	-- --	5 753 --	1 506 --	7 259 --	--
loss on exchange rate 1st year	-- --	9 684 --	-- --	9 684 --	--
<i>sub-total ADMINISTRATION</i>	292 110 258 500	318 454 268 500	350 257 268 500	960 821 795 500	268 500
<b>total EXPENDITURE</b>	1 066 595 1 030 600	964 527 864 500	856 918 889 500	2 888 039 2 784 600	1 090 500
<i>net result</i>	-44 461 -118 000	103 946 54 510	386 360 57 020	445 845 -6 470	-112 540
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>644 113</b>	<b>748 059</b>	<b>1 134 419</b>		