

## COMMISSION 46

## ASTRONOMY EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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### PROCEEDINGS BUSINESS SESSIONS, 5 and 13 August 2009,

#### 1. Business

Commission 46 had held two sessions of business meetings during the General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro. Both of them were chaired by Magda Stavinschi.

The first meeting took place on August 5th from 14:00 to 17:30.  
The programme of this meeting was as follows:

Magda Stavinschi: General report of the IAU C46 (2006-2009), 20 min  
John Hearnshaw: Report for the PG for the World-wide development of Astronomy for 2006-2009, 20 min  
Jean Pierre de Greve: ISYA: Istanbul 2008, and future prospects, 20 min  
Kam-Ching Leung: Exchange Astronomers Program, 10 min  
Barrie Jones: Newsletters & National liaisons, 20 min  
Rosa M. Ros: Courses organized in Ecuador & Chile in cooperation with UNESCO, 15 min  
Ed Guinan: The IAU Teaching Astronomy for Development (TAD) Program - Recent Developments and Opportunities, 15 min  
Paulo S. Bretones: The Latin-American Journal of Astronomy Education (RELEA), 10min  
William van Altena: A new book of astrometry, an important tool for education, 10 min  
Julio Blanco Zarate, Astronomy education in Uruguay, 5 min

The meeting ended with a general discussion of 25 min.

The report of the President summarized the standing of Commission 46 from 2006 to 2009. The website of the Commission was the first topic considered. The situation was not satisfactory. After several efforts, and with two site addresses <http://www.iau.org/EDUCATION.8.0.html> and <http://www.iau46.obspm.fr> really the Commission does not have an active website which is essential for its activities.

The chairs of the PG active groups presented the following reports:

PG International Schools for Young Astronomers (ISYA), chaired by Jean-Pierre de Greve, organized the International School in 2007 - Malaysia, 2008 - Turkey and 2009 - Trinidad & Tobago. PG Teaching Astronomy for Development (TAD), chaired by Edward Guinan & Laurence Marschall, visited Vietnam, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Kenya, South Africa, Trinidad & Tobago, Philippines, D.P.R. Korea.

PG for the Worldwide Development of Astronomy (WWDA), chaired by John Hearnshaw, visited 19 nations which currently have individual IAU members but these countries are not members of IAU

PG for Newsletters & Webpage, chaired by Barrie Jones and vice-chaired by Chantal Balkovski, published the Newsletter twice a year

PG on Public Education at the times of the Solar Eclipses & Transit Phenomena (PE-TSETP), chaired by Jay Pasachoff, offers timely advice to countries that will experience a Solar Eclipse and transits of the Sun by Venus and Mercury (<http://www.eclipses.info>).

PG Network for Astronomy School Education (NASE), chaired by Rosa M. Ros, which will begin their activities in 2010 had organized a pilot course in Ecuador and Peru in cooperation with UNESCO in 2009.

There are two Special PG. PG for Collaborative Programs, chaired by Hans Haubold, in order to carry out activities with UNESCO, COSPAR, UN, ICSU, and other international organizations. And PG for Exchange of Astronomers (EA), chaired by John Percy and vice-chaired by Kam-Ching Leung, with detailed rules and application procedures in <http://physics.open.ac.uk/IAU46/travel.html>

The list of Events supported by Commission 46 is:

“Joint European and National Astronomy Meeting 2007: Our non-stable Universe”. Yerevan, Armenia

JENAM SpS5 Astronomy Education in Europe  
20-25 August, 2007

IAU GA, Rio de Janeiro  
Young Astronomers Events  
3-14 August 2009

IAU GA, Rio de Janeiro  
SPS4 Astronomy Education between Past and Future  
6, 7, 10 August, 2009

IAU GA, Rio de Janeiro  
SPS5 Accelerating the Rate of Astronomical Discovery  
11 - 14 August, 2009

IAU JOINT SYMPOSIA, Venice  
Astronomy & its Instruments - Before and After Galileo  
28 September - 3 October, 2009

IAU - IMU Symposium, Madrid  
“Mathematics and Astronomy, a joint long journey”  
November 23 - 27, 2009

IAU - EAAE Course, Madrid  
“Adventure in Teaching Astronomy”  
November 27 - December 1, 2009

After the talks a short discussion of halt an hour took place. The main topic was the website situation.

The second meeting took place on August 13th from 9:00 to 13:30. The program of this meeting was as follows:

Magda Stavinschi: Appointing the new OC, 20 min

Jay Pasachoff: Report on the PG on Public Understanding at the Times of Eclipses, including the results of the 22 July 2009 TSE in China. 20min

Kevin Govender: Activities and Future of the Developing Astronomy Global Cornerstone, 20 min

John Hearnshaw: Future plans of PGWWDA for 2009-12, 10 min

- Rosa M. Ros: "Network for Astronomy School Education" NASE in the future, 20min

The new Organizing Committee was appointed:

President: Rosa M. Ros (Spain)

Vice-President: John Hearnshaw (New Zealand)

Retiring President: Magda Stavinschi (Romania)

SOC (Chairs of PG):

Jean-Pierre de Greve, Ed Guinan, Hans Haubold, Barrie Jones, Larry Marschall, Jay Pasachoff and Beatriz Garca

After the talks a general discussion on the "Questions for participants at NASL LUNCH" took place. The website situation had been discussed again. The offer from IAU EC of support for the website's expenses was well accepted.

Some changes regarding PGs were considered. In particular the PG for Exchanges of Books, Journals and Materials was not considered necessary, at present. This facility can be included in the TAD PG. The PGs on Newsletter and National Liaisons, both of them chaired by Barrie Jones, had been merged into a single PG. The PG on Exchange of Astronomers had been considered necessary but it seems convenient to introduce some changes in order to promote and increase its visibility. Finally the decision was to include their tasks in the new Office generated by the Decanal Plan.

In the general debate the situation of several Cornerstone Projects of IYA2009 after this year had been considered. In particular Galileo Teacher Training Project, Universe Awareness and Developing Astronomy Globally were interested in being included in the Commission 46. The decision was not taken in order to wait for the end of the International Year and the general situation for all the Cornerstone Projects.

Magda G. Stavinschi *President of the Commission* Rosa M. Ros *Incoming President of the Commission*