Home | News | FAQ | Organization | Activities | Contact

IAU INFORMATION BULLETIN 77 (June 1996)

CONTENTS

Editorial		iii
1.	GENERAL ASSEMBLIES	1
1.1	The XXIIIrd General Assembly, Kyoto, Japan	1
1.2	Practical Information on the XXIIIrd General Assembly	2
1.3	General Deadlines for the XXIIIrd General Assembly	6
1.4	Additional Deadlines for Adhering Organisations,	
	Commissions and Divisions	7
2.	NATIONAL MEMBERS	8
3.	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	9
3.1.	68th Meeting of the IAU EC	9
3.2.	69th Meeting of the IAU EC	9
4.	DIVISIONS: World Wide Web	10

5.	COMMISSIONS:	11
5.1.	Commission Membership	11
5.1.	List and Addresses	11
6.	SCIENTIFIC & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	27
6.1.	Commission 38: Exchange of Astronomers	
	IAU Travel Grants: Guidelines	27
6.2.	Commission 46: Teaching of Astronomy	30
6.2.1.	Teaching for Astronomy Development (TAD)	30
6.2.2	Messages from Commission 46 (Teaching of Astronomy)	30
6.3.	Future IAU Scientific Meetings	31
6.3.1.	Deadline	31
6.3.2.	Future IAU Symposia	31
6.3.3.	Future IAU Colloquia	32
6.3.4.	Future Regional Astronomy Meetings	33
6.3.5.	Future Co-sponsored Meetings	33
6.4.	Past IAU Scientific Meetings: Report of the VIII Latin	
	American Regional Meeting	34
7.	OTHER SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF INTEREST	
	TO IAU MEMBERS	36
8.	IAU PUBLICATIONS	46

47

48

9. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS: COPUOS 47

10. MEMBERSHIP: WWW

11. OTHER MATTERS: Catalogs on CD-rom available

EDITORIAL

While this Information Bulletin is being printed the IAU Executive Committee will hold its 68th Meeting in Baltimore, USA. One of the main topics of this Executive Committee Meeting will be the programme of the XXIIIrd IAU General Assembly in 1997 in Kyoto. A particularly important task of the Executive Committee will be the selection of the Symposia, Joint Discussions and other Scientific Sessions of the Kyoto General Assembly. This will not be easy since an exceptionally large number of good proposals have been received. At the time of the deadline we counted 9 proposals for General Assembly Symposia and more than 30 proposals for Joint Discussions and special sessions. The time and space available in Kyoto will allow to schedule only about two thirds of these proposals. This means that the Executive Committee, regrettably, will have to reject even some good proposals. On the other hand, the large number of applications clearly demonstrates the great interest of our community for the Kyoto Meeting. And the many good proposals before the Executive Committee are going to guarantee a rich and exciting scientific programme for this General= Assembly.

May, 1996

Immo Appenzeller General Secretary

1 GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

1.1. THE XXIIIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY, KYOTO, JAPAN,

AUGUST 18-30, 1997

The preparations for the Kyoto General Assembly continue to proceed smoothly. The proposals for the Symposia, Joint Discussions and other Scientific Sessions of this General Assembly have been collected and are being evaluated by the Executive Committee while this issue of the Information Bulletin goes to print.

Below we give some first practical information for the (hopefully many!) IAU Members who plan to participate in the Kyoto meeting. We also reprint the list of important deadlines for the General Assembly.

We would like to draw your attention in particular to the forthcoming Information Bulletin (No. 78 in short) which will be a

SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE INFORMATION BULLETIN

containing the

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

OF THE XXIIIRD IAU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This special issue (IB 78) is scheduled to be distributed in October 1996.

Please note

that IB 78 (like the other IAU Information Bulletins) will also be made available on the World Wide Web through the IAU WWW server (see address on back cover of this IB). The WWW version of IB 78 will become available on the Web already around

September 15, 1996

This WWW version of the preliminary programme will be regularly updated.

1.2. PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON THE KYOTO GA communicated by:

Toshio FUKUSHIMA Chair of LOC E-mail: iau97@tenmon.or.jp FAX: 81 422 34 3793

The XXIIIrd General Assembly of the IAU (Kyoto GA, in short) will be held in Kyoto, Japan, during the period August 17th-30th, 1 997. Practical information about the Kyoto GA is summarised here. Detailed information will be published in the special issue of IAU Information Bulletin (IB 78) scheduled to appear in October 1996. A Registration form and an accommodation application form will be attached to IB 78.

WWW

More detailed information about the Kyoto GA will be accessible on the WWW server of the Astronomical Society of Japan, whose URL is

http://www.tenmon.or.jp/

Note that "tenmon" means astronomy in Japanese.

General information on Japan and Kyoto is also available at the following WWW servers:

Japan: http://jw.nttam.com/HOME/index.shtml/
Kyoto: http://www.kyoto-inet.or.jp/index-e.html/

The former server has also a few linkages to information pages about Kyoto.

Kyoto

Surrounded by hills in the north, east, and west, Kyoto boasts its scenic view and lots of cultural treasures. It had been the imperial capital of Japan for more than 1000 years till 1868. Now, it is the seventh largest city in Japan with about 1.4 million inhabitants. You will be able to enjoy the modernism and the traditional beauty of Japan at the same time.

Venue

The Kyoto International Conference Hall (KICH) is the venue of the Kyoto GA. It is located next to the small lake, Takaraga-Ike, at the northern quarter of the city. Thanks to its special design, the KICH is known as a state-of-the-art conference hall in Japan. Several bus routes connect the KICH to the nearest two subway stations, Kitayama and Kita-Ohji, with 10-15 min. bus rides. It takes about 15 min. by subway from Kitayama to the JR Kyoto station, the gateway of the city. A new subway station is expected to be open in front of the KICH in June, 1997.

Transportation within Kyoto City

A subway line and many bus routes cover the city. They are so punctual that travellers can plan their schedules easily. Also a number of taxis are available.

August Weather in Kyoto

The temperature is 24-33 C (75-91 F). The average humidity is 69%. Sometimes we have a weak shower in the evening.

Getting to Kyoto

General Caution:

The middle of August is one of the mostly crowded seasons in Japan. We recommend you to book tickets much earlier than usual.

Air:

There are two major international airports in Japan. The Tokyo (Narita) Airport is close to Tokyo. The Osaka (Kansai) Airport is close to Osaka and Kyoto. Train connections from these airports to Kyoto are described below.

Domestic flights from Tokyo (Narita) to Osaka (Kansai) are rare. Those from the Tokyo (Haneda) Airport to the Osaka (Itami) Airport are available. But the number of flights is limited. Trains are more convenient to get to= Kyoto.

Train:

The Japan Railways (JR) are the major railway companies in Japan. They, as

a group, cover most of Japan including the following routes;

1) Tokyo (Narita) Airport - Tokyo (Central Station)

1 hour by JR Narita Express (N'EX) line=20

One-way fare is about 2,900 Yens.

2) Tokyo (Haneda) - Tokyo (Central Station)=20 25 min. by the combination of a monorail and JR local lines=20 One-way fare is about 600 Yens in total.

3) Tokyo (Central Station) - Kyoto=20

2 hours and 40 min. by JR Shinkansen, so-called Bullet train=20 One-way fare is about 13,000 Yens.

4) Osaka (Kansai) Airport - Kyoto=20

1 hour 15 min. by JR Kansai-Airport Express ("Haruka") line=20 One-way fare is about 3,400 Yens.

Non-express services and other lines are available at lower prices but are less convenient.

Bus

Osaka (Itami) Airport - Kyoto 55 min. One-way fare is about 1,300 Yens.

Registration

Early registration fee is 30,000 Yens for the participants (IAU members and invited participants) and 10,000 Yens for registered guests older than 12 years. Deadline of the early registration is May 1, 1997. The additional charge for late registration is 5,000 Yens for both cases.

=20

In addition to the paper form, which will be attached in the special issue of IB 78, we plan to provide a page for electronic registration on our WWW server.

Accommodation

A sufficient number of beds has been booked in western style hotels. Most of the hotels are scattered within the central part of Kyoto. The room rates in Yens (per night per room without meals) are as follows:

```
Rank
       Single Twin
                       Triple
А
       14,000-17,000
                       20,000 --
В
       9,500
             17,000 --
С
       8,500-9,000
                       15,000-16,000
                                       ___
       7,000-7,500
                      11,000-13,000
D
                                     15,000
```

All of them have a private bathroom with a bathtub. Note that the number of single rooms is limited, around 450 in total. Some hotels set a discount rate for the usage of a twin room by a single person. The amount of this discount is typically 3,000 Yens.=20

In Japan, the price for a twin room is 1.3-1.8 times higher than that of a single room. Yet, by sharing a twin or a triple room with your friend(s), you can save money.

A limited number of Youth Hostel accommodations has also been booked. The price including two meals is 4,150-4,300 Yens per person per night. In general, 4 8 persons share a room.

Visas

As of April 1996, no visa is required for short-stay visitors to Japan from the following countries, though it may be changed, the allowed stay-length without visa being limited to three or six months for most of these= countries:

Argentine, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Burunei (within 14 days),

Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America,= Uruguay.

Those from other countries and regions are requested to contact the nearest Consular Office or Embassy of Japan at least THREE months (or more depending on countries and regions) in advance of their trip.

Social Events

The preliminary schedule of the social events is as follows;

Informal Reception Monday Aug. 18 evening Welcome Reception Wednesday Aug. 20 evening Concert Monday Aug. 25 evening Banquet Wednesday Aug. 27 evening Scientific Excursions To be determined

1.3. GENERAL DEADLINES FOR THE XXIIIRD GENERAL=20 ASSEMBLY

EC meeting to decide about Symposia and JDs June 1996

Notification of Symposia and JD SOCs July 1, 1996

Submission of preliminary programme of GA Symposia, JDs, etc. September 1, 1996

Special IB with GA preliminary programme, announcements=20 concerning grants, registration forms, local information October 1996 Submission of Symposium grant applications to Symposium SOCs February 15, 1997 Submission of GA grant applications to General Secretary February 15, 1997 Submission of Abstracts to Symposium/JD SOCs Febr. 15, 1997 Notification of the grant applicants before April 15, 1997 Last day for Early Registration May 1, 1997 Beginning of meeting August 18, 1997 End of meeting August 30, 1997 1.4. ADDITIONAL DEADLINES FOR ADHERING ORGANISATIONS, COMMISSIONS AND DIVISIONS Proposals for new IAU members from Commissions and Divisions November 15, 1996=20 Submission of new Budget to Adhering Organisations December 15, 1996 Submission of resolutions with financial implications February 15, 1997 Proposals for new members from Adhering Organisations March 15, 1997

Proposals for GA agenda March 15, 1997

Submission of resolutions without financial implications May 15, 1997

2 NATIONAL MEMBERS

On January 1, 1996, following the recommendation of the Executive Board of ICSU with regard to the States of Central and Eastern Europe, Latvia became a new Full Member of the IAU

At the same date, the membership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea terminated according to paragraph 7 of the IAU Statutes.

3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

3.1. 68TH MEETING OF THE IAU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 68th Meeting of the IAU Executive Committee is scheduled for 23-25 June 1996 in Baltimore, USA on the invitation of the Director of the Space Telescope Science Institute.

3.2. 69TH MEETING OF THE IAU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 69th and 70th Meetings will take place in connection with the XXIIIrd IAU General Assembly in August 1997 in Kyoto, Japan.

Any matter to be submitted to these meetings should reach the Office of the General Secretary by May 15th, 1997

4 DIVISIONS: WORLD WIDE WEB

Since the last issue of the IB one additional Division (No. VIII "Galaxies and Cosmology") has opened its own home page within our IAU WWW server. Hence by now the Divisions V, VIII, X, and XI are represented in the Web. The Division home pages provide news and announcements from the Divisions as well as basic information on their scope and activities

5 COMMISSIONS

5.1. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Members who wish to join a Commission should get in touch with the President of the corresponding Commission (see addresses below, =A7 5.2.) who will advise the IAU Secretariat for the updating of the database. It is reminded that newly elected Members are allowed to belong to one Commission during the first triennium. Other IAU Members are not allowed to belong to more than three Commissions at the same time (Commissions 5, 6, 14, 38, 41 & 46 are not concerned). IAU Members who are not in agreement with this rule will be asked, in a near future, to make their choice. 5.2 LIST AND ADDRESSES OF PRESIDENTS, VICE-PRESIDENTS OF COMMISSIONS & PRESIDENTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

see Section 2 ("Basic Information") of the IAU home page

6 SCIENTIFIC & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

6.1. COMMISSION 38: EXCHANGE OF ASTRONOMERS

IAU TRAVEL GRANTS: GUIDELINES

Within the limitations imposed by the budget of the Commission as approved by the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union, funds are available to Commission 38 toward grants to qualified individuals to enable them to visit institutions abroad. It is intended, in particular, that the visitors should have ample time and opportunity to interact with the intellectual life of the host institution so that maximum benefit is derived by both sides. It is a specific objective of the programme that astronomy in the home country be enriched after the applicant returns.

1. Candidates may be faculty/staff members, post-doctoral fellows, or graduate students at any recognised educational/research institution or observatory. All candidates must have an excellent record of research and must have made permanent and professional commitments to astronomy. The programme is designed to support both the work of young astronomers and established astronomers whose visits may benefit the country or institution visited. It is emphasised that all recipients should return to their home institutions or home countries upon the completion of their visits.

2. All visits must normally consist of a stay of at least 3 months at a single host institution. In special cases, shorter visits can be considered; stopover at other institutions en route may be permitted.

3. All visits must be formally agreed to by the Directors of the home and host institutions involved. Such endorsements must confirm that the proposed plan of study is a reasonable one and will be of benefit to= astronomy.

4. All applicants must give details of funds currently available to her/him to finance her/his proposed visit including supporting documents. In particular, s/he must state what other applications s/he has submitted in efforts to obtain support from other sources and the status of such applications. In the event that an applicant receives funds, which may be used, in whole or in part, for the same proposed purpose from another source, s/he is required to revise her/his application or make a refund to the IAU. If dependants are to accompany the applicant, details must be= given.

5. The amount of the grant will be governed by the cost of one return economy air fare and limited to the least expensive fare (such as PEX, APEX, etc.) between home and host institutions and normally is to be used by the applicant for such travel. With prior approval, the funds can instead be used wholly or in part for subsistence costs during the visit.

Some grants may be awarded on the basis of a one-way fare. An example is the case where highly qualified graduate students apply for funds to go abroad to begin graduate studies at an institution where they have been formally accepted. Grants to attend symposia, summer schools, conferences, society meetings,
 etc. are outside the scope of the programme.

Grants will not normally be made for the sole purpose of obtaining observational data.

An individual should normally not expect to receive an IAU award for a second visit.

7. Each recipient is required to submit a brief report to the President of Commission 38 after her/his return from the visit. Acknowledgement of support from the Exchange of Astronomers Programme of the IAU should be made in any published paper resulting from the visit.

Application Procedure

1. An individual who wishes to apply for a grant under the IAU Exchange of Astronomers Programme should read the rules carefully to ensure that the circumstances of her/his case conform to the conditions under which IAU grants can be made. S/he should then proceed by formally submitting her/his request for a grant in the form of a letter to the President of Commission 38 (see =A7 4, below).

Each candidate must submit a curriculum vitae showing that s/he is professionally qualified, and must submit a viable plan of scholarly activity to be carried out during the visit.

The information supplied in those documents should be complete and detailed as it will be used to judge whether the proposal is in conformity with the aims of the programme, whether the minimum initial requirements are being met, and whether the guidelines will permit a favourable decision. Any special circumstances must be carefully set forth. It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange for the two confidential letters of endorsement from senior officials of the home and host institutions. These are to be sent without delay directly to the President of Commission 38. The letters from both institutions should confirm that the applicant's proposed visit has the knowledge and support of the directors or senior academic/research officers of the institutions involved. Further they should state whether the applicant will be returning to a position at the home institution at the conclusion of the visit. Finally, they should confirm to the President of Commission 38 that the senior officials themselves have made every effort to obtain the necessary travel funds from their own institutions and from other resources within the respective countries.

The applicant must state who is responsible for her/his subsistence during the prolonged visit at the host institute, i.e. subsistence paid by the home or by the host institute, by a grant or fellowship or by any other means. Copies of the relevant documents should be submitted with application. In addition the applicant should provide information on the lowest available travel fare required.

3. As noted above, care should be taken to make the application as complete as possible and to include detailed statements rather than generalities. Material should be typed and single spaced. The application will be considered as quickly as possible, but it should be recognised that information and opinions must be exchanged among the President, Vice-Presidents, and/or other Members of the Organising Committee of Commission 38.

4. In summary, the application should include:

i. plan of scientific activity,

ii. curriculum vitae,

iii. letters of support from home and host institutions,

iv. information on responsibility for subsistence at the host institution,

v. information on lowest available travel fare.

and should be submitted in time for the Officers of the Commission to consult by post.=20

5. All correspondence, including the endorsements referred to above, should be directed to the President of Commission 38, International Astronomical Union, with copy to the Vice-President. For the period August 1994-July 1997, the addresses are:

President Vice-President

Prof. H.E. Jorgensen Dr. Morton S. Roberts NBIFAFG NRAO Juliane Maries Vej 30 Edgemont Road DK 2100 Copenhagen O Charlottesville VA 22903 Denmark USA

Fax: 45 35 32 3989 1 804 296 0278

6.2. COMMISSION 46: TEACHING OF ASTRONOMY

6.2.1. Teaching for Astronomy Development (TAD)

Following the announcements regarding TAD sent to 30 people in 19 countries with a finite but low level of astronomy and who might wish to enhance their astronomy, four detailed proposals have been received and evaluated by the TAD Committee (cf. IB 76). A decision on these proposals will be taken by the IAU Executive Committee at the June meeting in Baltimore. =20 6.2.2. Messages from Commission 46 (Teaching of Astronomy)

The electronic newsletter of Commission 46 (Teaching of Astronomy) is distributed four times a year. You can obtain it by sending your name and e-mail address to Armando Arellano Ferro (armando@astroscu.unam.mx). It contains short announcements and notes about astronomy education, one paragraph or less in length. These can be sent to the editor John Percy (percy@astro.utoronto.ca) at any time.

Commission 46 organizes very successful one-day workshops on astronomy teaching for school teachers, connected to IAU General Assemblies. Furthermore, in February 1995 we organized such a workshop at an IAU research colloquium in South Africa. We encourage the organizers of other scientific meetings (both IAU-sponsored and others) to include teachers' workshops, and other educational events such as public lectures, in connection with their meetings. For advice and assistance, contact the president of Commission 46, John Percy (percy@astro.utoronto.ca), Erindale College, University of Toronto, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5L 1C6.

6.3 FUTURE IAU SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

6.3.1. Deadline

Proposals for IAU Symposia, Colloquia, Regional Meetings, and co-sponsored meetings planned for 1998 (and beyond) should reach the Assistant General Secretary no later than May 15, 1997

in order to be considered at the 1997 Executive Committee meeting. Proposals should be complete, with all supporting documents, at that time (cf. the Rules for IAU Scientific Meetings).

6.3.2. Future IAU Symposia

Symposium 178 MOLECULES IN ASTROPHYSICS: PROBES AND PROCESSES July 1 - 5, 1996, Leiden, The Netherlands.

See IB 76, p. 13.

Symposium 179 NEW HORIZONS FROM MULTI-WAVELENGTH SKY SURVEYS August 26 - 30, 1996, Baltimore, MD, USA.

See IB 76, p. 14.

Symposium 180 PLANETARY NEBULAE August 26 - 30, 1996, Groningen, The Netherlands.

See IB 76, p. 15.

Symposium 181 SOUNDING SOLAR AND STELLAR INTERIORS September 30 - October 3, 1996, Nice, France. See IB 76, p. 15.

Symposium 182 HERBIG-HARO FLOWS AND THE BIRTH OF LOW-MASS STARS January 20 - 26, 1997, Chamonix, France.

See IB 76, p. 16.

6.3.3. Future IAU Colloquia

Colloquium 162 5th International Colloquium on BIOASTRONOMY: ASTRONOMICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL ORIGINS AND THE SEARCH FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE July 1 - 5, 1996, Capri, Italy.

See IB 76, p. 17.

Colloquium 162 NEW TRENDS IN ASTRONOMY TEACHING July 8 - 12, 1996, London and Milton Keynes, UK.

See IB 76, p. 18.

Colloquium 163 ACCRETION PHENOMENA AND RELATED OUTFLOWS July 15 - 19, 1996, Port Douglas, QLD, Australia.

See IB 76, p. 18.

Colloquium 164 RADIO EMISSION FROM GALACTIC AND EXTRAGALACTIC COMPACT=

=E8 April 21 - 26, 1997 (NB: NEW DATE!), Socorro, NM, USA.

See IB 76, p. 19.

On the SOC, D. Jauncey has replaced R. Ekers (both Australia).

Colloquium 165 DYNAMICS AND ASTROMETRY OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL CELESTIAL BODIES

July 1 - 5, 1996, Poznan, Poland.

See IB 76, p. 20.

6.3.4. Future Regional Astronomy Meetings

VIITH ASIAN-PACIFIC REGIONAL ASTRONOMY MEETING August 19 - 23, 1996, Pusan, Korea R.

See IB 76, p. 21.

6.3.5. Future Co-Sponsored Meetings

31st COSPAR SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY July 14 - 21, 1996, Birmingham, UK.

See IB 76, p. 22.

SCOSTEP-IAU-COSPAR MEETING: THIRD SOLTIP SYMPOSIUM ON SOLAR TRANSIENT AND INTERPLANETARY PHENOMENA October 14 - 18, 1996, Beijing, China PR.

See IB 76, p. 13.

6.4. PAST IAU SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS:

Report on the VIIIth Latin American Regional Meeting of Astronomy

The VIIIth Latin American Regional Meeting of Astronomy (LARMA) was held at Hotel Carrasco in Montevideo, Uruguay from 27 November to 1 December, 1995. There were 226 participants, distributed among countries as follows: 65 from (Argentina), 83 (Brazil), 1 (Bolivia), 7 (Chile), 4 (France), 9 (Mexico), 4 (Paraguay), 7 (Spain), 1 (Sweden), 22 (Uruguay), 18 (USA) and 5 (Venezuela). The VIIIth LARMA was one of the most well-attended meetings of this type that have taken place, which is an indication of the dynamism of the Latin American astronomical community and its keen interest.

We want to express our satisfaction in the fact that such a large, very successful meeting devoted to Astronomy could occur for the first time in our country. We find it a strong indication of the progress and maturity of our small astronomical community. Furthermore, we consider that the spread of important regional astronomical activities beyond the five large -astronomically speaking- Latin American countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Venezuela, will help to strengthen regional astronomy.

The programme of the meeting included the following topics:

- 1) Star formation;
- 2) Stellar evolution;
- 3) Solar system;
- 4) Interstellar matter;
- 5) Milky Way and Magellanic clouds;
- 6) Galaxies and cosmology; and

7) Instrumentation.

The programme was structured as seven oral sections and three poster sections. There were 14 invited talks, 63 oral contributions and nearly 200 posters.

Besides the strictly academic part of the meeting, a direct contact with the public was pursued through popular lectures, taking advantage of the presence of outstanding colleagues.

Three round tables took place during the meeting on the following topics:=20 1) Progress report on the Gemini project, introduced by a panel of 11 members of the US Gemini Team;

2) Teaching of Astronomy, which gave rise to an interesting debate between professional astronomers and teachers from primary and secondary schools, with participation of local authorities of the education system, looking for effective ways of cooperation in the training of teachers in basic concepts of Astronomy;

3) Latin American Network of Astronomy, where Dr. Manuel Peimbert (Instituto de Astronom=EDa, UNAM, Mexico) reported on the history and activities of this recently-created Network. The discussion included the organization of the Network and the utilization of the limited funds that UNESCO provides.

As a preliminary analysis of the meeting, we conclude that it was quite successful. First, from a purely scientific standpoint, the quality of the presentations was very high, and reflected the progress of Latin American astronomy. Second, a large number of young astronomers and students participated, and thereby underwent a very significant experience that included meeting other astronomers from many different countries. The presence of a large number of astronomers from the region encouraged fertile discussions of projects of common interest. No doubt this kind of meeting is very successful in promoting Astronomy in the region, and the essential support of the International Astronomical Union is to be gratefully acknowledged.

The invited talks, the abstracts of the oral and poster contributions and the resolutions of the closing assembly will be published in the Proceedings of the VIIIth LARMA meeting as a special volume of the Revista Mexicana de Astronomia y Astrofisica.

Julio A. Fern=Elndez Co-Chairman Scientific Organizing Committee

7 OTHER SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO IAU MEMBERS

WOLF-RAYET STARS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF STELLAR EVOLUTION

July 1 - 3, 1996, Li=E8ge, Belgium. Contact address: J.M. Vreux, Institut d'Astrophysique, Ave de Cointe 5, B 4000 Li=E8ge-Cointe, Belgium. Tel: 32 41 52 9980 Fax: 32 41 52 7474 E-mail: vreux@astro.ulg.be HST AND THE HIGH REDSHIFT UNIVERSE, 37th Herstmonceux Conference July 1 - 5, 1996, Cambridge, UK. Contact address: Gill Harrison, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ, England. Tel: 44 1223 374 000

Fax: 44 1223 374 700 E-mail: g.harrison@ast.cam.ac.uk International Conference on THE SL9-JUPITER COLLISION July 3 - 5, 1996, Meudon, France. Contact address: Agn=E8s Fav=E9, Conf=E9rence SL9-Jupiter, DESPA,= Observatoire de Paris, F 92195 Meudon Cedex, France Fax: 33 1 45 07 2806 E-mail: sl9jupiter@megasx.obspm.fr VIth International Conference on ASTEROIDS, COMETS, METEORS July 8 - 12, 1996, Versailles, France. Contact address: A.-C. Levasseur-Regourd, ACM, Service d'A=E9ronomie, CNRS, BP 3, F 91371 Verri=E8res-le-Buisson, France. Tel: 33 1 64 47 4293 Fax: 33 1 69 20 2999 E-mail: aclr@aerov.jussieu.fr

VARIABLE STARS AND THE ASTROPHYSICAL RETURNS OF MICROLENSING SURVEYS July 8 - 12, 1996, Paris, France. Contact address: C. Douillet, Institut d'Astrophysique, 98bis, bvd Arago, F 75014 Paris, France. Tel: 33 1 44 32 8000 Fax: 33 1 44 32 8001 E-mail: iapcoll@iap.fr

13th IPS Conference: NEW POTENTIAL FOR THE PLANETARIUMS
July 12 - 16, 1996, Osaka, Japan.
Contact address: Secretariat of IPS'96, c/o Inter Group Corporation, 3 7 3
Nakatsu, Kita-ku, Osaka 531, Japan.
Tel: 81 6 372 9345

Fax: 81 6 372 6127

E-mail: ips@sci-museum.kita.osaka.jp

STAR AND PLANET FORMATION IN CLUSTERS
July 22 - 25, 1996, Wellesley, MA, USA
Contact address: Jean Economos, Center for Astrophysics, MS 42, 60 Garden
Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA.
Fax: 1 617 495 7345
E-mail: sfw96-request@cfa.harvard.edu
WWW: http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/cfa/rg/SF2.html

VISUAL DOUBLE STARS: FORMATION, DYNAMICS AND EVOLUTIONARY TRACKS International Workshop on Multiple Stars & Celestial Mechanics in Commemoration of the 5th Centenary of the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain

July 29 - August 1, 1996, Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Contact address: J.A. Docobo, Astronomical Observatory "Ram=F3n Maria= Aller",

University of Santiago de Compostela, P.O. Box 197, E 15706 Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Tel: 34 81 59 2747
Fax: 34 81 59 7054
E-mail: oadstars@usc.es
WWW: http://WWW.usc.es/~oausc/

Fifth Oxford Conference on ARCHAEOASTARONOMY
August 3 - 9, 1996, Santa Fe, NM, USA.
Contact address: Rolf M. Sinclair, National Science Foundation, Physics
Division, 4201 Wilson Blvd. W., Arlington, VA 22230, USA.
Tel: 1 202 357 7996
Fax: 1 202 357 7994
E-mail: rsinclai@nsf.gov

GALACTIC AND CLUSTER COOLING FLOWS August 5 - 8, 1996, Haifa, Israel. Contact address: N. Soker, Dept. of Mathematics & Physics, Oranim -University Division, IL 36006 Tivon, Israel. Tel: 972 4 830 504 Fax: 972 4 832 277 E-mail: soker@phys1.technion.ac.il

2nd Stromlo Symposium on THE NATURE OF ELLIPTICAL GALAXIES
August 26 - 30, 1996, Canberra, ACT, Australia
Contact address: Mt. Stromlo Observatory, Private Bag, Weston Creek Post
Office, ACT 2611, Australia
Tel: 61 6 249 0266
Fax: 61 6 249 0233
E-mail: sss@mso.anu.edu.au
WWW: http://msowww.anu.edu.au/meetings/sss

XXVth General Assembly of THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF RADIO SCIENCE (URSI) August 28 - September 5, 1996, Lille, France. Contact address: AG URSI Secretariat Pr. P. Degauque, Universit=E9 de Lille 1, F 59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France. Tel: 33 20 33 7206 Fax: 33 20 33 7207

NEW WORLDS IN ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS September 8 - 10, 1996, Algarve, Portugal. Contact address: J. Dias de Deus, Inst. Superior T=E9cnico, Dep. de Fisica, Av Rovisco Pais, P 1096 Lisbon Codex, Portugal. Tel: 351 841 7774 Fax: 351 849 9242

E-mail: agursi@univ-lille1.fr

BLAZARS, BLACK HOLES AND JETS
September 9 - 13, 1996, Girona, Spain.
Contact address: M. Kidger, Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias, Via
Lactea, E 38200 La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain.
Tel: 34 22 60 5200
Fax: 34 22 60 5210
E-mail: mrk@iac.es

2nd Integral Workshop on THE TRANSPARENT UNIVERSE September 16 - 20, 1996, St. Malo, France. Contact addresses: Christoph Winkler, Astrophysics Division, ESA/ESTEC, P.O. Box 299, NL 2200 AG Noordwijk, The Netherlands.

Tel: 31 71 565 3591

Fax: 31 71 565 4690

WWW: http://astro.estec.esa.nl/SA-general/Projects/Integral/integral.html

ASPECTS OF DARK MATTER IN ASTRO- AND PARTICLE PHYSICS

September 16 - 20, 1996, Heidelberg, Germany.

Contact address: Max-Planck-Institut f=FCr Kernphysik, Postfach 103 980, D

69069 Heidelberg, Germany.

Tel: 49 6221 516 262/159

Fax: 49 6221 516 540

E-mail: dark69@mickey.mpi-hd.mpg.de

WWW: http://pluto.mpi-hd.mpg.de/~dark96/dark96.html

ADASS: 6th Annual Conference on ASTRONOMICAL DATA ANALYSIS SOFTWARE AND= SYSTEMS September 22 - 25, 1996, Charlottesville, VA, USA. Contact address: C. White, NRAO, 520 Hedgemont Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903, USA.

Tel: 1 804 296 0211

Fax: 1 804 296 0278 E-mail: adass96@nrao.edu JOURN=C9ES SYST=C8MES DE R=C9F=C9RENCE SPATIO-TEMPORELS 1996: "Deux Si=E8cle= s d'Evolution du Syst=E8me du Monde. Hommage =E0 Laplace" September 23 - 25, 1996, Paris, France. Contact address: N. Capitaine, DANOF, 61 Ave de l'Observatoire, F 75014 Paris, France. 33 1 40 51 2231 Tel: 33 1 40 51 2291 Fax: www: capitaine@obspm.fr ESO/IAC Workshop on QUASAR HOSTS AND AGNS September 23 - 27, 1996, Tenerife, Spain. Contact address: D.L. Clements, European Southern Observatory, Karl-Schwarzschild-Strasse 2, D 85748 Garching bei Muenchen, Germany. Tel: 49 89 320 06 0 Fax: 49 89 320 2362 E-mail: dclement@eswo.org 30th ESLAB Symposium on SUBMILLIMETRE & FAR INFRARED SPACE INSTRUMENTATION September 24 - 27, 1996, Noordwiijk, The Netherlands. Contact address: ESTEC, Astrophysics Division, Postbus 299,=20 NL 2200 AG Noordwijk, The Netherlands Tel: 31 17 19 83557 Fax: 31 17 19 84690 eslab30@vmprofs.estec.esa.nl E-mail: WWW: http://astro.estec.esa.nl/SA-general/Symposia/Eslab30/

NATO ASI: MANY FACES OF NEUTRON STARS October 1 - 10, 1996, Lipari, Italy.

eslab30.html

Contact address: CNR, Piazza G. Verdi 6, I 90138 Palermo, Italy. Tel: 39 91 605 52 09 Fax: 39 91 611 01 41 E-mail: NATO96@areapa.area.pa.cnr.it First ASPE Euroconference ADVANCES IN THE PHYSICS OF SUNSPOTS

October 2 - 6, 1996, Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Spain. =E8 Contact address: J.C. del Toro, Instituto de Astrof=EDsica de Canarias,= Via Lactea, E 38200 La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain.

Tel: 34 22 605200

Fax: 34 22 605210

E-mail: jti@ll.iac.es

LUMINOUS BLUE VARIABLE: MASSIVE STARS IN TRANSITION

October 6 - 11, 1996, Kona, HI, USA.

Contact address: A. Nota, Space Telescope Science Institute, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA.

Tel: 1 410 338 4700

Fax: 1 410 338 4767

E-mail: lbv96@stsci.edu

4th International Workshop on POSITIONAL ASTRONOMY AND CELESTIAL MECHANICS October 7 - 11, 1996, Penyscola, Spain.

Contact address: A. Lopez Garcia, Observatorio Astronomico, Avda. Blasco Iba=Flez 13, E 46010 Valencia, Spain.

Tel/Fax: 34 6 386 4773

E-mail: obsast@vm.ci.uv.es

7th Maryland October Astrophysics Conference on STAR FORMATION: NEAR AND FAR October 14 - 16, 1996, College Park, MD, USA. Contact address: October Conference, Dept. of Astronomy, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, USA. Tel: 1 301 405 3001 Fax: 1 301 314 9067 E-mail: October@astro.umd.edu WWW: http://www.astro.umd.edu/october

Third Conference on FAINT BLUE STARS October 13 - 17, 1996, Schenectady, NY, USA. Contact address: A.G. Davis Philip, 1125 Oxford Place, Schenectady, NY 12308, USA. Tel: 1 518 374 5636 Fax: 1 518 346 5781

E-mail: agdp@gar.union.edu

Workshop on EVOLUTION OF IGNEOUS ASTEROIDS: FOCUS ON VESTA AND THE HED METEORITES October 16 - 18, 1996, Houston, TX, USA. Contact address: D.W. Mittlefehldt, Mail Code C23, Lockheed Martin ESS, 2400 NASA Rd. 1, Houston, TX 77058, USA. Tel: 1 713 483 5043 Fax: 1 713 483 5347

E-mail: duck@snmail.jsc.nasa.gov

COMPUTATIONAL ASTROPHYSICS October 17 - 19, 1996, Halifax, NS, Canada. Contact address: David Clarke, Dept. of Astronomy, St. Mary's Univ., Halifax, NS B3H 3C3, Canada. Tel: 1 902 420 5828/5635 Fax: 1 902 420 5261/5561 E-mail: dclarke@ap.stmarys.ca 5th International Workshop on DATA ANALYSIS IN ASTRONOMY October 27 - November 3, 1996, Erice, Sicily, Italy. Contact address: C. Maccarone, IFCAI/CNR, Piazza G. Verdi 6,=20 I 90138 Palermo, Italy.

Tel: 39 91 605 5360

Fax: 39 91 605 5355

E-mail: cettina@ifcai.pa.cnr.it

WWW: http://www.ifcai.pa.cnr.it

ASTROPHYSICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE LABORATORY STUDY OF PRESOLAR MATERIAL October 31 - November 2, 1996, St Louis, MO, USA. Contact address: Thomas J. Bernatowicz, Dpt of Physics,=20 Campus Box 1105, Washington University, St Louis, MO 63130, USA. Tel: 1 314 935 6276 Fax: 1 314 935 6219 E-mail: tom@howdy.wustl.edu

WWW: http://tbland.wustl.edu/stardust.html

18th Texas Symposium on RELATIVISTIC ASTROPHYSICS December 15 - 20, 1996, Batavia, IL, USA. Contact address: C.M. Sazama, Fermilab, MS 122, PO Box 500, Batavia, IL 60510 0500, USA. Tel: 1 708 840 2226 Fax: 1 708 840 8589 E-mail: sazama@fnalv.fnal.gov

WWW: http:://www-astro-theory.fnal.gov/Texas/welcome.html

THE THREE GALILEOS: THE MAN, THE SPACECRAFT, THE TELESCOPE January 7 - 10, 1997, Padova, Italy. Contact address: C. Barbieri, Dept. of Astronomy, Univ. of Padova, Vicolo dell'Osservatorio 5, I 35122 Padova, Italy. Tel: 39 49 875 4343 Fax: 39 49 875 4345 E-mail: barbieri@astrpd.pd.astro.it

FUNDAMENTAL STELLAR PROPERTIES: THE INTERACTION BETWEEN OBSERVATION AND= THEORY January 13 - 17, 1997, Sydney, Australia. Contact address: Andrew Booth, Chatterton Astronomy Dpt, School of Physics, University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia. Tel: 61 2 351 3849 61 2 660 2903 Fax: E-mail: booth@physics.usyd.edu.au The Fifth CTIO/ESO Workshop SN 1987A: TEN YEARS AFTER February 22 - 28, 1997, La Serena, Chile. Contact address: M.M Phillips or N.B. Suntzeff, CTIO, Casilla 603, La Serena, Chile. Tel: 56 51 225 415 Fax: 56 51 205 212 E-mail: mphillips@noao.edu or nsuntzeff@noao.edu www: HTTP://www.ctio.noao.edu/SN1987A conf.html THE LOCAL BUBBLE AND BEYOND April 21 - 25, 1997, Garching, Germany. Contact address: D. Breitschwerdt, Max-Planck-Institut f=FCr Extraterrestrische Physik, Postfach 1603, D 85740 Garching bei M=FCnchen,= Germany. Tel: 49 89 3299 3317 Fax: 49 89 3299 3569 E-mail: breitsch@rosat.mpe-garching.mpg.de 4th Compton Symposium on GAMMA RAY ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS April 27 - 30, 1997, Williamsburg, VA, USA. Contact address: James Kurfess, Naval Research Lab., Code 4150, 4555 Overlook Ave SW, Washington, DC 20375-5320, USA.

Tel: 1 202 767 3182

Fax: 1 202 767 6473

E-mail: kurfess@osse.nrl.navy.mil

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON SOLAR PROMINENCES, A MEMORIAL COLLOQUIUM TO LUCIEN D'AZAMBUJA April 28 - May 4, 1997, Aussois, France. Contact address: D.M. Rust, The Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins Road, Laurel, MD 20723, USA. Tel: 1 301 953 5414 Fax: 1 301 953 6670

E-mail: david.rust@jhuapl.edu

A HALF CENTURY OF STELLAR PULSATIONS INTERPRETATIONS June 16 - 20, 1997, Los Alamos, NM, USA. Contact address: Joyce A. Guzik, Los Alamos National Laboratory, X 2 MS B220, Los Alamos, NM 87545-2345, USA. Tel: 1 505 667 8927 Fax: 1 505 665 4080

E-mail: joy@lanl.gov

10th Cambridge Workshop on COOL STARS, STELLAR SYSTEMS, AND THE SUN July 15 - 19, 1997, Cambridge, MA, USA. Contact address: A.K. Dupree, Center for Astrophysics, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA.

Tel: 1 617 495 7489

Fax: 1 617 495 7049

E-mail: adupree@cfa.harvard.edu

GLOBAL CHANGE AND HISTORY OF GEOPHYSICS AND RELATED DISCIPLINES August 4 - 14, 1997, Uppsala, Sweden. Contact address: Wilfried Schr=F6der, Geophysical Station, Hechelstrasse 8,= D 28777 Bremen R=F6nnebeck, Germany

International Conference on VARIABLE STARS, dedicated to the 90th
anniversary of V.P. Tsessevich (1907 - 1983)
September 1 - 5, 1997, Odessa, Ukraine.
Contact address: Prof. V.G. Karetnikov, Astronomical Observatory, Odessa
State University, T.G. Shevchenko Park, Odessa 270014, Ukraine.
Tel: 7 0482 228 442
E-mail: root@astro.odessa.ua

ASTRONOMY FROM LARGE DATABASES III September 7 - 10, 1997, Sonneberg, Germany. Contact address: Constanze la Dous, Sonneberg Observatory, Sternwartestrasse 32, D 96515 Sonneberg, Germany. Tel: 49 3675 81210 Fax: 49 3675 81219 E-mail: aldiii@stw.tu-ilmenau.de

ASYMPTOTIC GIANT STARS

August 26 - 31, 1998, Montpellier, France. Contact address: C. Waelkens, Instituut voor Sterrenkunde, Celestijnenlaan 200B, B 3001 Leuven, Belgium. Tel: 32 16 20 0656 Fax: 32 16 20 1241 E-mail: christoffel@ster.kuleuven.ac.be

8 IAU PUBLICATIONS

Special offer from Kluwer Academic Publishers to IAU Members on IAU publications: Members of the IAU receive a discount of 33 1/3% off the price of the hardbound Symposia and Highlights volumes. They may purchase paperback copies of Symposium proceedings at NLG 70.00 per copy and paperback copies of the Highlights at NLG 105.00 per copy. The Transactions may be purchased at NLG 115.00 per copy.

8.1. SYMPOSIA (KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS)

- 165 COMPACT STARS IN BINARIES Eds. J. van Paradijs, E.J. van den Heuvel & E. Kuulkers Hardback USD 207.00 GBP 133.00 0-7923-3845-6
- 168 EXAMINING THE BIG BANG AND DIFFUSE BACKGROUND RADIATIONS Eds. M. Kafatos & Y. Kondo Hardback USD 215.00 GBP 138.00 0-7923-3814-6
- 171 NEW LIGHT ON GALAXY EVOLUTION Eds. R. Bender & R.L. Davies Hardback USD 179.00 GBP 115.00 0-7923-3975-4
- 173 ASTROPHYSICAL APPLICATIONS OF GRAVITATIONAL LENSING Eds. C.S. Kochanek & J.N. Hewitt Hardback USD 189.00 GBP 122.00 0-7923-3954-1
- 8.2. COLLOQUIA (CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS)
- 154 THE COLLISION OF COMET SHOEMAKER-LEVY 9 AND JUPITER Ed. K. S. Noll Hardback 0-521-56192-2

9 INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

We are pleased to inform the members of our Union that, following an earlier application, the IAU has been granted Observer Status at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of COPUOS, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space of the United Nations. Until the 1997 IAU General Assembly the IAU will be represented in this Committee by Prof. Derek McNally, London,= UK.

10 MEMBERSHIP

We would like to remind all colleagues that addresses of individual IAU Members can be obtained from the IAU World Wide Web server (URL address: see back cover of this IB).

11 OTHER MATTERS

NEW CD-ROM AVAILABLE FROM THE NASA ASTRONOMICAL DATA CENTER

The NASA Astronomical Data Center has produced a second CD-ROM of large and widely used astronomical catalogs. Those on the CD-ROM include the three Durchmusterungs, the PPM, FK5, Hipparcos Input Catalog, General Catalog of Variable Stars, vol IV (cross index), Catalog of [Fe/H], Catalog and Atlas of Cataclysmic Variables, Atomic Energy Level Data, Third Reference Catalog of Galaxies, CfA Redshift Catalog, and six 6C Survey catalogs. The complete list of the contents can be found on the World Wide Web at the URL:

http://adc.gsfc.nasa.gov/ or by anonymous FTP to adc.gsfc.nasa.gov.

There are ASCII and FITS files on separate disks with the same catalogs on each. There are also browse software programs on each disk. The two versions are available separately at \$10 to US addresses and \$15 each to other addresses. These may be obtained from:

NSSDC Coordinated Request and User Support Office (from within the US), or World Data Center-A for Rockets and Satellites (from other countries)

NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center Code 633 Greenbelt, Maryland 20771, U.S.A.

E-mail: request@nssdca.gsfc.nasa.gov Tel: 1 301 286 6695 Fax: 1 301 286 1635

For the NASA Space Science Data Center catalog of other CD-ROM's see:

http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/cd-rom/cd-rom.html

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