

Report of IAU Division C: Astronomy education, outreach and heritage.

Report for the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017.

1. In March, the Division C Steering Committee (DSC) approved the formation of an inter-commission working group (WG) 'Data Driven Astronomy Education and Public Outreach' (DAEPO) involving commissions B2 (Data and documentation), C1 (Astronomy education and development) and C2 (Communicating astronomy with the public) which was proposed by Chenzhou Cui in Beijing.
2. In April, the division approved seven new IAU Associate Members be admitted as associates working with DAEPO. They are A Karick (Australia), S Li (China), Q Cuilan (China), M Raddick (US), M Subba Rao (US), Z Peng (China) and K O'Flaherty (Ireland, the Netherlands).
3. A symposium on Astrobiology and Astronomy Education (ISE2A) was held in Utrecht in July 2017. This meeting was co-sponsored by the IAU and supported by Division C and Commission C1.
4. J Hearnshaw as Division C president participated in EC99, the 99th Executive Committee meeting of the IAU, held in Pune, India in May.
5. J Hearnshaw, at the request of IAU Vice-President Ajit Kembhavi, had extensive discussions with Aniket Sule, the president of the International Olympiad of Astronomy and Astrophysics and with Michael Gavrilov, the founder of the International Astronomy Olympiads, in order to attempt to bring these two different olympiad movements together. Hearnshaw met with Sule in India and exchanged emails with both Sule and Gavrilov between May and November 2017. However, the result was that the two parties were unwilling to make compromises in their organizations to enable any form of collaboration to take place. It was decided that for the time being the status quo would have to prevail. This means that the IAU was unwilling to endorse either movement, as confirmed by the IAU General Secretary.
6. In July, Division C made numerous comments to the IAU President-elect, Ewine van Dishoeck, on the draft IAU Strategic Plan for 2020-30. Of these recommendations, the most significant was a proposal by Hearnshaw that an annual week-long conference for young astronomers should be held, very possibly in a developed country, to complement the ISYA programme. This could be called the IAU YAM (Young Astronomers' Meeting). All IAU Junior Members would be encouraged to attend and present their work. It would discuss either all branches of astronomy or hot topics, and also there would be a discussion of career paths in astronomy and women in astronomy. We suggest the venue rotates among N America, Europe, Asia/Pacific and Latin America on an annual basis. By having IAU YAM in developed countries, this spreads the exposure to young astronomers to all parts of the world by complementing ISYA in developing countries.
7. J Hearnshaw with Xiaochun Sun (President of commission C3, History of Astronomy) made a proposal for an IAU Centenary Symposium 'Under One Sky' to mark the centenary of the IAU and to be held at the IAU General Assembly in Vienna in August

2018. This proposal was accepted by the EC in May 2017 and much time was expended during 2017 in organizing this event.

8. Two further associate members were approved in September, being A Lelliott (S Africa) and U Eriksson (Sweden). They are both working in the Astronomy education research WG of C.C1.
9. J Hearnshaw with Moein Mosleh (Shiraz University, Iran) proposed an IAU symposium for Shiraz to be held in August 2019 on 'The amateur-professional connection in astronomy' and they submitted a full proposal in December 2017 to the IAU.
10. At the request of Beatriz Garcia (Argentina) and Rosa Ros (Spain) who run the C.C1 WG Network for Astronomy School Education (NASE), J Hearnshaw wrote to the IAU General Secretary supporting the proposal that NASE should become a programme of the IAU that has the status of a school such as the International School of Young Astronomers with the support of a new IAU office.
11. Division C has been planning for the Division Days (24 and 27 August 2018) at the IAU General Assembly in Vienna. Most of the sessions on these days will be used to show-case the work of the numerous commission and division WGs associated with Division C, as well as the work of our four Commissions and of the Division as a whole.
12. Two communications to all members of Division C (about 1900 people) were sent during 2017. An email in June reported on some of the decisions taken at the 99th EC meeting in Pune India, including the choice of 2018 symposia and focus meetings for the Vienna GA. This communication also reported on future ISYA schools and the draft IAU Strategic Plan 2020-30. A communication in November presented the First Circular of the IAU Centenary Symposium, reminded members of various GA deadlines, and of the imminent deadline for the 2018 IAU PhD prize.
13. Division C has written nine supporting letters for proposed IAU symposia in 2019. These were sent to:
 - L Canas, Astronomy for equity, diversity and inclusion. 12-15 Nov in Tokyo;
 - C Mandrini, Magnetic flux ropes. 1-5 Jul in San Juan, Argentina;
 - M Povic, Nuclear activity in galaxies. 11-15 Mar in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
 - E da Cunha, Early galaxy evolution. 3-7 Jun in Viana do Castelo, Portugal;
 - P Bretones, Astronomy education. 4-7 Jul in La Serena, Chile;
 - D Valls-Gabaud, The low surface brightness sky. 8-12 Jul, in Tenerife, Spain;
 - A Kosovichev, Solar and stellar magnetic fields. 30 Jun-6 Jul, in La Serena Chile;
 - T Storchi-Bergmann, Galaxy evolution and feedback. 4-8 Mar, in Bento Goncalves, Brazil;
 - J Hearnshaw, Amateur-professional connection in astronomy. 24-29 Aug, in Shiraz, Iran.
14. The steering committee of Division C approved the appointment of S Paolantonio (Argentina) as an associate of the Division in December.