

Annual Report 2019/2020 – IAU Working Group on Red Giants and Supergiants

Organising Committee (OC):

Anibal García-Hernández (Spain), Biwei Jiang (China), Carolyn Doherty (Hungary), Emily Levesque (USA), Gioia Rau (USA), Jacco van Loon (UK, Chair), JJ Eldridge (New Zealand), John Lattanzio (Australia), Josef Hron (Austria), Keiichi Ohnaka (Chile), Marcelo Miguel Miller Bertolami (Argentina), Maria Lugaro (Hungary), Tomasz Kaminski (Poland)

Following the ‘make-over’ of this working Group (WG) and the goals it set out in the 2018 Triennial Report, progress can be reported on the following:

- Membership of the OC: the balance in diversity and scientific interests has been improved. We expect few (if any) changes for the foreseeable future.
- Monthly electronic AGB Newsletter: the WG OC members have joined the Editorial Board and are taking turns in writing an opinion piece. This has triggered also more responses and “articles” from the community, as had been our intention.
- The WG has proposed a Focus Meeting for the IAU-GA in Busan next year, to meet its target of producing a list of key scientific problems and possible strategies to solve them. The format of the meeting is partly driven by community input in a novel way. The outcome of the selection process of Focus Meetings is not yet known to us.

We also took the lead in setting up an ‘IAU Ombud’, as a channel for the community to communicate concerns (or examples of good practice) regarding research culture in an anonymous way. A report to the IAU-WG on Equity and Inclusion is in preparation.

In the coming year we expect to continue to discuss relevant science topics through the AGB Newsletter and through meetings we are involved in. We may expect more meetings to be taking place via electronic (‘on-line’) means. Ahead of the IAU-GA we aim to produce a draft of the priority/strategy document mentioned above and will then solicit community input.

We expect to request continuation of this WG beyond 2021.