

Inter-commission WG C1-F2-F3-H2 Education and Training in Astrobiology

Report for the period Jan to Dec 2017

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This Working Group was created in October 2015 in order to coordinate training, education and outreach activities in astrobiology at the international level.

Five goals were identified:

1) To collect all lectures and conferences in astrobiology which have been recorded during the last 10 years (whatever the language is), to categorize them according to their field and the public concerned (from general public to specialists of the field), and to make them available for free on a website so that people with few financial resources can access them remotely.

The platform « [Online courses in astrobiology](http://astrobiovideo.com/en/) » was launched in November 2017: <http://astrobiovideo.com/en/>. So far 3 languages are available: French, English and Spanish.

2) To produce handbooks and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for university students - pooling the individual national efforts that are already in progress over the world. Two MOOCs have been produced or are still in progress :

- Chris Impey : [Astronomy : exploring Time and Space](https://www.moculist.com/course/astrometry-exploring-time-and-space-coursera) : <https://www.moculist.com/course/astrometry-exploring-time-and-space-coursera>

- Charley Linneweaver : [Are we alone](#) (in progress)

3) To develop outreach for the general public and high school teachers. One book has been recently published in French for the general public and will be translated soon into different languages : «[La plus grande histoire jamais contée](#)», Belin Publisher : <https://www.belin-editeur.com/la-plusgrande-histoire-jamais-contee>

4) To create an annual international astrobiology training school (TS) lasting 1-2 weeks, which would train the young generation in the basics of astrobiology. In 2016 the annual Training School «[Rencontres Exobio pour Doctorants/Astrobiology Introductory Course](#)» has got the recognition of IAU. The next TS will be organised in march 2018: <http://www.exobiologie.fr/red/index.php/en/red16-astrobiology-course/>

In addition to this annual TS, we have organized on two occasions times a 2-day TS

before one international conference to let the local students (and also the conference PhD students) have a basics course in astrobiology: in Vietnam in 2016, just before the conference «Search for life: from early Earth to exoplanets»

<http://rencontresduvietnam.org/conferences/2016/search-for-life/program/> and in Chile in 2017, just before the C.F3 Astrobiology Conference:
<http://astrobiology2017.org/training-school/>

Lectures of all these TS are recorded and are available on the «Online courses in astrobiology».

- 5) To organize a regular international workshop on education in astrobiology in order to discuss how to carry out multidisciplinary training in astrobiology, how to evaluate students, and above all to share all training materials that each country may have developed but kept in its national drawers. The first **International Conference** was held in Utrecht in July 2017 in collaboration with the C.C1 Education commission: <https://ise2a.uu.nl/>. It gathered 200 participants; the next one will be organised in **Symposium on Education in Astronomy and Astrobiology (ISE2A)** and will be organised in Málaga in 2020.