

Annual Report 2021

Commission B2, Functional Working Group Designations & Nomenclature (WGD&N)

The WG Designations & Nomenclature has been approved as a functional WG in September 2021. The new Chair is Cécile Loup, succeeding to Marion Schmitz now vice-chair.

The WGD&N clarifies existing astronomical nomenclature and helps astronomers avoid potential problems when designating their sources. The most important function of the WGD&N is overseeing the IAU Registry for Acronyms, also called Dictionary of Nomenclature, (for newly discovered astronomical sources of radiation: see the website <http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/cgi-bin/DicForm>), which is sponsored by the WG and operated by the Centre de Données astronomiques de Strasbourg (CDS). The Clearing House screens the submissions for accuracy and conformity to the IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature (<http://cdsweb.ustrasbg.fr/iau-spec.html>). From its beginning in 1997 through March 2021, there have been 355 submissions and 325 acceptances.