

Triennial Report 2021-2024

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

The WG Designations & Nomenclature has been approved as a functional WG in September 2021. The chair is Cécile Loup (CDS, Centre de Données astronomique de Strasbourg), the vice-chair is Marion Schmitz (NED, NASA Extragalactic Database).

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.u-strasbg.fr/iau-spec.html>).

From its beginning in 1997 through December 2023, there have been 379 submissions and 343 acceptances. In the last 3 years 3 submissions had to be rejected for the following reasons : renaming known objects with already several identifiers ; re-use of an acronym that already exist ; acronym meaning a well defined type of objects while they were only candidates. From 2021 to 2023 we especially reviewed and accepted the following acronyms :

- products of the X-ray eROSITA mission eFEDS and 1eRASS
JHHMMSS.s+DDMMSS
(<https://erosita.mpe.mpg.de/edr/eROSITAObservations/Catalogues/>);
- products of the new 4 meter Multi-Object Spectroscopic Telescope survey
4MOST JHHMMSSs+DDMMSSs
(<https://www.eso.org/sci/facilities/develop/instruments/4MOST.html>).
- products of the Multi-Object Spectroscopic survey with the 4.2m William-Herschel Telescope WEAVE JHHMMSSs+DDMMSSs
(<http://casu.ast.cam.ac.uk/surveys-projects/weave>)
- products of the Fast All Sky HI Survey FASHI JHHMMSS.ss+DDMMSS.s
(<https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.06097>)