

# INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

## 85th EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Paris, France

7 - 8 April 2009

### DRAFT MINUTES

(v2, 22 June 2009)

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Catherine J. Cesarsky	President
Robert Williams	President-Elect
Karel A. van der Hucht	General Secretary
Ian F. Corbett	Assistant General Secretary
Beatriz Barbuy	Vice-President
Cheng Fang	Vice-President
Martha P. Haynes	Vice-President
George K. Miley	Vice-President
Giancarlo Setti	Vice-President
Brian Warner	Vice-President
Ronald D. Ekers	Adviser
Oddbjørn Engvold	Adviser

#### FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR

Paul G. Murdin

#### IAU XXVII GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOC CO-CHAIR

Daniela Lazzaro

#### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Vivien A. Reuter

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  - 3.2. Open action items EC84 (doc, p. 25)
  - 3.3. Draft minutes OM2009-1 (doc, p. 29)
  - 3.4. Open action items OM2009-1 (doc, p. 40)
  - 3.5. Special Nominating Committee (oral)
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- 8.2.8. Resolutions
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- 8.2.16. Town Hall Lunch Meeting on *Decadal Plan*, 7 August, 12:45-13:34
- 8.2.17. Women in Astronomy Lunch Debate, 10 August, 11:00-14:00 (doc, p. 219)
- 8.2.18. Town hall Lunch Meeting on *New Space Observatories*, 14 August, 12:45-13:34
- 8.3. IAU XXVIII General Assembly, Beijing, 2012 (oral)
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## 9. International Year of Astronomy 2009

- 9.1. Report by EC-WG IYA2009 chair CJC (in *IB103*; *late doc*, p. 227)
- 9.2. Statement of the IAU by CJC for UN-COPUOS, Vienna, 9 February 2009 (doc, p. 231)
- 9.3. Eddington plaque on Príncipe. IAU sponsoring (doc, p. 235)
- 9.4. IYA presentation at World Science Forum, Budapest, November 2009 (doc, p. 237)
- 9.5. EC-WG IYA2009 finances (*late doc*, p. 238a)

## 10. Partnership with UNESCO-WHC Thematic Initiative Astronomy and World Heritage

- 10.1. MoU, signed 30 October 2008 (doc, p. 239)
- 10.2. New Commission 41 WG on *Astronomy and World Heritage*. Circulars. (doc, p. 245)
- 10.3. C41/WG-AWH presentation at GA Inaugural Ceremony (doc, p. 285)

## 11. Partnership with the Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation

- 11.1. *Gruber Cosmology Prize*
  - 11.1.1. Gruber Cosmology Prize 2008. Report by Bob Williams (oral)
  - 11.1.2. Gruber Cosmology Prize 2009. Advisory Board 2009 and 2010 (doc, p. 287)
  - 11.1.3. Selection of new member 2010 Advisory Board
- 11.2. *PPGF Fellowship*
  - 11.2.1. PPGF Fellowship 2007, 1 January – 31 December 2008 (doc, p. 289)
  - 11.2.2. PPGF Fellowship 2008, 1 October 2008 – 1 October 2009
  - 11.2.3. PPGF Fellowship 2009

## 12. Partnership with the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters

- 12.1. MoU with NASL (doc, p. 293)
- 12.2. IAU involvement in the Kavli Prize in Astrophysics 2010 (oral, O.E.)
- 12.3. NASL involvement in the IAU General Assembly (*late doc*, p. 294a)

- 13. IAU Divisions, Commissions, Working Groups**
- 13.1. Triennial reports 2006 – 2009 (in *Transactions XXVIIA*)
- 13.2. History of the *Minor Planet Center* (to be published in IB 104) (doc, p. 295)
- 13.3. Brief history on the Division III *CSBN* (to be published in IB 104) (doc, p. 299)
- 14. IAU Scientific Meetings**
- 14.1. Meetings in 2008
- 14.1.1. Post Meeting Reports (doc, *Annex*, p. 1)
- 14.1.2. APRIM 2008 report (doc, *Annex*, p. 99)
- 14.2. Meetings in 2009
- 14.2.1. IAU Symposia (in *IB103*)
- 14.3. Meetings in 2010
- 14.3.1. Proposals for IAU Symposia and a Regional IAU Meeting in 2010 (doc, *Annex*, p. 127)
- 14.3.2. Divisional assessment of proposals (doc, *Annex*, p. 129)
- 14.4. Co-sponsoring request: International Conference on *Frontiers of Space Astrophysics: Gamma Ray Bursts & Neutron Stars, Recent Developments & Future Directions*, 30 March – 4 April 2009, New Library, Alexandria, Egypt (doc, *Annex*, p. 225)
- 14.5. APRIM 2011, 26-29 July, Thailand (*late doc*, p. ...)
- 15. IAU Publications**
- 15.1. Highlights of Astronomy (doc, p. 301)
- 15.2. Transactions A and B of the IAU (doc, p. 301)
- 15.3. Proceedings of Symposia (doc, p. 301)
- 15.4. Overview IAU Symposia Proceedings 2006-2008 (doc, p. 304)
- 15.5. IAU Editorial Board (doc, p. 305)
- 15.6. Proceedings of Regional IAU Meetings (doc, p. 303)
- 15.7. IAU Information Bulletins (doc, p. 303)
- 15.8. IAU e-Newsletters (doc, p. 303)
- 16. IAU Educational Programs of Division XII / Commission 46**
- 16.1. PG International Schools for Young Astronomers (report *Transactions XXVIIA*)
- 16.1.1. ISYA 2009 on Trinidad & Tobago (doc, p. 309)
- 16.2. PG Teaching for Astronomy Development (report *Transactions XXVIIA*)
- 16.3. PG World Wide Development of Astronomy (report *Transactions XXVIIA*)
- 16.4. The Development Oversight Committee (DOC) (doc, p. 313)
- 16.5. Co-sponsoring of COSPAR Capacity Building Workshops (report *Trans. XXVIIA*, doc, p. 319)
- 17. International organizations with representatives of the IAU**
- 17.1. ICSU GA Maputo 2008 report (doc, p. 320)
- 17.2. ICSU letter on visa issues, dd. 26-Feb-2009 (doc, p. 325)
- 17.3. UN-COPUOS. Report on aspects of NEOs, with IAU chapter (doc, p.327)
- 17.4. IAU representatives triennium 2009-2012 (doc, p. 343)
- 18. EC86, August 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**
- |        |           |           |                |   |
|--------|-----------|-----------|----------------|---|
| EC86-1 | Sunday    | 2 August  | 10:00-17:00 hr | with outgoing Division Presidents       |
|        | Tuesday   | 4 August  | 14:00-17:30 hr | <b>Inaugural Ceremony and Session 1</b> |
| EC86-2 | Thursday  | 6 August  | 11:00-12:30 hr | with IAU XXIX GA (2015) proposers       |
| EC86-3 | Wednesday | 12 August | 11:00-12:30 hr | preparing for Session 2                 |
|        | Thursday  | 13 August | 14:00-17:30 hr | <b>Session 2 and Closing Ceremony</b>   |
- 19. EC87, August 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**
- |      |        |           |                |                                   |
|------|--------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| EC87 | Friday | 14 August | 09:00-17:00 hr | with incoming Division Presidents |
|------|--------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
- 20. EC88, 10-12 May 2010, Baltimore, MD, USA**

- 21. **EC89, May 2011. Suggestions for venue**
- 22. **Any other business**
  - 22.1. Beatriz Barbuy and the 2009 L'ORÉAL-UNESCO Awards
  - 22.2. Request from the Fondazione Internazionale P.L. Giordano Bruno
- 23. **List of actions items**
- 24. **Closure of EC85**

## DRAFT MINUTES EC85

### **\*1. Welcome by the President of the IAU, *Catherine J. Cesarsky***

At 09:15 hr, the President welcomed the EC members and invited guests, notably Daniela Lazzaro, co-chair of the IAU XXVII GA NOC, and Paul Murdin, chair of the IAU Finance Sub-Committee. She commemorated the lively IAU cocktail party and most interesting Arago book presentations of the day before and thanked the staff of the IAU Secretariat for the excellent organization. The President reminded the meeting that this EC85 is held in advance of the IAU XXVII GA, so that we are spending a minimum of time at the GA in EC meetings. The President emphasized that this EC85 is concerned with four main topics on its agenda: GA, IYA, finances and education.

### **\*2. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved.

### **\*3. Executive Committee**

#### *3.1. Draft minutes EC84* (doc, p. 1)

Advisor Ekers asked to rephrase section 4.2 of the draft minutes of EC84:

for ... no manual or documentation ...

read ... without adequate documentation ... .

Otherwise, the EC84 minutes were approved.

#### *3.2. Open action items EC84* (doc, p. 25)

See at the end of these minutes.

#### *3.3. Draft minutes OM2009-1* (doc, p. 29)

The meeting took notes of the minutes of OM2009-1

#### *3.4. Open action items OM2009-1* (doc, p. 40)

See at the end of these minutes.

#### *3.5. Special Nominating Committee* (oral)

The President informed the meeting of the names of the new Officers and EC members for the triennium 2009-2012. The meeting approved the proposal to make the President-Elect a member of the SNC. This is phrased in the revision of the Bye-Laws III.9b: "The General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, and the President-Elect participate in the work of the SNC in an advisory capacity.", up for approval by the GA.

***AI-EC85-1 on P:*** Prepare a document on the procedures of the SNC. ***Due: 1 July 2009.***

#### *3.6. EC-Advisory Committee on Hazards of Near Planetary Objects (NPOs). New ToR* (doc, p. 43)

The EC agreed with the proposed ToR and accepted from the Officers that the way in which the AC-HNPOs currently operates is satisfactory.

**AI-OM2009-2\*1 = AI-EC85-2 on GS:** *Inform the members of the EC Advisory Group on Hazards of Near Planetary Objects about the new ToR; ask for a triennial report; and ask whether they wish to continue their membership of the EC-AC for the next triennium. Due: asap.* [Done 22 June 2009]

3.7. *Div.III WG on Planetary System Nomenclature an EC Working Group* (oral)

The President recalled the proposal made at EC84 (Oslo) to the Division III WG on *Planetary System Nomenclature* (WG-PSN) to become an EC Working Group. Yesterday in OM2009-2, the Officers realized that such an offer should then be made also to the Division III Committee on *Small Bodies Nomenclature* (CSBN). Division III's advice on this matter is highly desirable. The meeting discussed the option of combining the two bodies. Daniela Lazzaro argued against this, since the only common activity is the naming of *plutoids*. This process still lacks clear guidelines for agreeing on a voting procedure. Williams suggested forming an inter-WG sub-committee for naming *plutoids*. Ekers asked about the definition of exoplanets. The President explained that most exoplanet hunters are too busy to answer email requests. The main problem is the definition of the upper mass limit. The President is communicating with the next President of Commission 53 on *Extrasolar Planets* on the subject: Allan P. Boss.

**AI-EC85-3 on GS:** *Contact the chair and vice-chair of the Division III Committee on Small Bodies Nomenclature (CSBN) and ask whether they would agree to the promotion of the CSBN to EC Working Group, reporting to the EC, while keeping the Division III President informed. Due: asap.*

[Not done, see **AI-EC85-4** on P-E here below.]

**AI-OM2009-2\*2 = AI-EC85-4 on P-E:** *Contact the Division III presidency and ask for their consent to promote WG-PSN and CSBN to EC Working Groups, reporting to the EC, while keeping the Division III President informed. Due: asap.*

[Done differently, 24 April 2009. The P-E agreed with the VP of Division III, Karin Meech, that WG-PSN and CSBN should stay DIII Working Groups, while together they should form a new dedicated EC-WG on Naming Dwarf Planets. Division III should solve this issue at the GA.]

3.8. *Astronomy for the Developing World. Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020* (doc, p. 45)

The meeting approved the latest version of the report "Astronomy for the Developing World - Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" (SP) and thanked George Miley for writing it. It was decided to make the report available on the IAU web site and to provide glossy hard copies. Miley will ask the help of Lars Lindberg Christensen for those jobs. Cheng Fang suggested sending the report to the National Members and inviting them to comment and make a bid for hosting the Global Development Office. Miley requested that, in order to make a start and to show to the National Members that the IAU is serious about this, the IAU should offer funding at least one FTE in the budget for the next triennium. In the discussion on finding sponsors, Ekers mentioned IBM and Microsoft. The idea of hiring a professional fund raiser was rejected given the experience of the EC-WG-IYA. Murdin suggested to adapt the proposed budget 2010-2012 in the spirit of Miley's request. Ekers suggested to formulate a second GA Resolution on the implementation of the SP.

**AI-EC85-5 on VP GM:** *Make sure to put the report "Astronomy for the Developing World - Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" on the IAU web and produce glossy hard copies. Due: 1 June 2009.*

**AI-EC85-6 on VP GM:** *Write article for the GA daily newspaper "Estrela D'Alva" on the report "Astronomy for the Developing World - Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" and to submit that to the editor Joao E. Steiner. Due: 1 June 2009.*

**AI-EC85-7 on P-E and VP GM:** *Formulate a second resolution on the "Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" with financial consequences. Due: 3 May 2009.* [Done, and submitted]

#### **\*4. Report on the Secretariat**

4.1. *Personnel* (oral)

#### **\*5. Financial matters**

5.1. *Dues overview National Members* (doc, 103)

5.2. *Status of dues payments by National Members. Voting rights* (late doc, p. 104b)

5.3. *Past accounts and Credit Lyonnais* (oral, p. 104d)

The EC discussed the fraudulent actions performed by the previous Executive Assistant over the period 1987 – 2007, notably the issue of IAU cheques for unnecessary purposes. A sophisticated accountancy software package (SAGE) has been installed to increase transparency of the IAU book keeping. Electronic banking with LCL has been installed. The IAU has terminated contracts with companies which were in collusion with the previous Executive Assistant. With the help of a lawyer, the IAU Secretariat is in negotiation with the bank Credit Lyonnais (LCL) in order to obtain refunds for those financial actions by the previous Executive Assistant which should have been prevented by the LCL. The IAU Secretariat has contracted a new auditor, and intends in future to change its auditor regularly. The IAU Secretariat cannot entirely prevent the possibility of fraud ever happening again; but it can and is taking proportionate measures to render a reoccurrence highly unlikely. The past Officers of the last 21 years will have to be informed first. Subsequently, statements will have to be prepared to inform the National Members (GS), the Finance Committee (ch FSC) and the GA (ch FSC). These statements will not be send out by email. If questions are asked to VPs, they should refer to the GS.

**AI-EC85-8 on GS:** *Prepare statement on financial issues for past Officers and the National Members.*

**Due: asap.** [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-9 on GS and EA:** *Prepare briefing document on fraud issues. Also one for the press, just in case. Due: asap.*

**AI-EC85-10 = AI-OM2009-2\*3 on GS:** *Draft letter to the National Members to explain the fraudulent actions which took place at the IAU Secretariat over the period 1987 – 2007. Due: asap.* [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

5.4. *Draft accounts and balance 2007, 2008*

Line items without transactions could be removed, e.g. the one for Women in Astronomy.

Throughout: for ... Items in Transit ... read ... Funds in Transit.

5.4.1.1 *Draft accounts 2007 Income* (doc, p. 105)

5.4.1.2 *Draft accounts 2007 Expenditure* (doc, p. 106)

5.4.1.3 *Bank balance 2007* (doc, p. 108)

5.4.2.1 *Draft accounts 2008 Income* (doc, p. 109)

5.4.2.2 *Draft accounts 2008 Expenditure* (doc, p. 110)

5.4.2.3 *Bank balance 2008* (doc, p. 112)

5.5. *Draft triennial accounts 2006 - 2008* (doc, p. 113)

5.6. *Explanatory notes on the draft triennial accounts 2006 - 2008* (doc, p. 119)

5.7. *Draft budget 2010 - 2012*

5.7.1. *Draft budget 2010 - 2012 (CHF)* (doc, p. 123)

5.7.2. *Draft budget 2010 - 2012 (EUR, rounded)* (doc, p. 129)

5.7.3 *Draft budget 2010 - 2012. Explanatory notes* (doc, p. 135)

VP Miley requested to pull in section O. Educational Activities O2, O8, O9, O12 and O13 together, to form on line item.

**AI-EC85-11 on GS:** *put pie chart of IAU budget in IAU web. Due: asap.*

5.7.4. *Recommendation by the Finance Sub-Committee*

Will be made when updated accounts, budget, and explanatory notes are available.

**\*6. Statutes, Bye-Laws, Working Rules**

6.1. *Statutes. Proposal for revision* (doc, p. 136)

6.2. *Bye-Laws. Proposal for revision* (doc, p. 137)

6.3. *Working rules. Proposal for revision* (doc, p. 145)

The new version of these, as prepared by the P-E, will be submitted to the National Members and subsequently to the GA.

**AI-EC85-12 on GS.** *Submit financial reports and proposals for revision of Statutes and Bye-Laws to the National Members. Due: 15 May 2009.* [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

**\*7. National Membership of the IAU**

7.1. *National Members. NMs five years in arrear*

7.1.1. *Armenia* (doc, p. 161)

7.1.2. *Bolivia*

7.1.3. *Peru*

The EC agreed that these three countries should receiving final notification, giving them an opportunity to pay their dues before 31 July 2009. Failure to do so will unfortunately automatically cause suspension of those countries as National Members.

**AI-EC85-13 on GS.** *Give Armenia, Bolivia and Peru final notification of status of their arrears and ask them their dues before 31 July 2009. Failure to do so will unfortunately automatically cause suspension as National Member. Due: May 15 2009.*

7.2. *Requests for National Membership*

7.2.1. *Colombia* (doc, p. 162)

7.2.2. *Costa Rica* (doc, p. 163)

7.2.3. *Honduras* (doc, p. 166)

7.2.4. *Kazakhstan* (doc, p. 169)

7.2.5. *Korea DPR*

7.2.6. *Kyrgyz* (doc, p. 171)

7.2.7. *Nepal* (doc, p. 173)

7.2.8. *Panama* (doc. p. 179)

7.2.9. *Singapore*

7.2.10. *Vietnam* (doc, p. 185)

The EC agreed with the Officers that Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama and Vietnam qualify for National Membership, pending approval of the General Assembly. These countries should be invited to send representatives to the General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro.

7.3. *Requirements and procedure for accepting new National Members* (doc, p. 189)

VP Cheng Fang raised the issue of the Categories of Adherence of the National Members and the associated dues levels. Various factors were discussed, like the number of Individual Members, bnp, etc. Formally, National Members are allowed to choose their Categories of Adherence to the IAU themselves (Working Rules §II, 1e). Those Categories are published on the IAU web, so that the National Members themselves can see and decide where they fit between other National Members.

**AI-EC85-14 on GS:** *inform Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama and Vietnam that they qualify for National Membership of the IAU pending approval of the General Assembly, ask for complementary details, and invite National Representatives and dignitaries to the GA. Due: asap.* [Done 22 June 2009]



7.4. *Requirements and procedure for accepting new Individual Members* (doc, p. 191)

**\*8. IAU General Assemblies**

- 8.2. *IAU XXVII General Assembly, Rio de Janeiro, 2009*
- 8.2.1. *Report EC delegation visit to Rio 9-16 August 2008* (doc, p. 193)
- 8.2.2. *NOC report 9 December 2008. Status of planning* (doc, p. 201)
- 8.2.3. *NOC report 28 February 2009. Status of planning* (doc, p. 203)

8.2.4. *NOC report by co-chair Daniela Lazzaro 7 April 2009. Status of planning* (late doc, p. 206a)

NOC co-chair Daniela Lazzaro presented the status of GA planning as of 7 April 2009. Her document is attached. At the time of the EC meeting 843 registrations [1730 as of 22 June 2009] and 2876 abstracts had been received. The level of the registration fee ( €280 - €290) is a great asset, compared with previous GAs. The credit card machine at PCO-JZ is working since March. Transportation for women (a 'women's car' during rush hours) has been arranged. A dedicated transportation ticket for the participants during the the GA is being considered. All posters will be up for display for a whole week, 1000 posters can be accommodated per week. The Convention Center will be closed to the public on the weekends, but will be open for preparations. The restaurant in de CC will have a separate lunch section seating 250 people.

The EC will meet on Sunday, 2 August, 10:00 – 17:00 hr in the Rio Othon Palace Hotel, Copacabana. The Major of Rio de Janeiro will host a reception on Friday 7 August for invitees including the National Representatives. Brian Warner asked Daniela to arrange with the travel agency for an astronomical tour over the middle weekend.

- 8.2.4.1 *Meeting Schedule* (doc, p. 208a)
- 8.2.5. *Sponsors*
- 8.2.5.1. *PPGF* (doc, p. 209)
- 8.2.5.2. *ESA* (doc, p. 210)
- 8.2.5.3. *ESO* (doc, p. 211)
- 8.2.5.4. *DNVA-Kavli Foundation* (oral)
- 8.2.6. *IAU GA Travel Grant Applications* (late doc, p. 212c)
- 8.2.7. *Inaugural Ceremony, Sessions 1 and 2. Draft agenda* (doc, p. 213)
- 8.2.8. *Resolutions*
- 8.2.8.1. *IAU Strategic Plan: Astronomy for the Developing World* (doc, p. 217)
- 8.2.9. *Invited discourses* (in IB103)
- 8.2.10. *Scientific meetings* (in IB103)
- 8.2.11. *Plenary symposium reviews* (in IB103)

8.2.12. *Business meetings* (in IB103)

Ekers suggested asking all GA Business Meeting organizers whether they want to have the agenda for the scientific part of their meetings published in the GA program book.

**AI-EC85-15 on GS:** ask all GA Business Meeting organizers whether they want to provide their agendas published in the GA program book. **Due: asap.** [Done 30 April 2009. Some responded.]

**AI-EC85-16 on GS:** ask the Press Officer to design a high visibility poster of the IAU to be on display throughout the GA at a most conspicuous place. **Due: asap.** [Done 23 June 2009]

- 8.2.14. *Gruber Cosmology Prize 2009 winner lecture, August 5, 12:45-13:45*
- 8.2.15. *Young Astronomers Events*
- 8.2.15.1. *Young Astronomers Lunch Debate, 6 August, 11:00-14:00*
- 8.2.15.2. *Young Astronomers Consulting Service*
- 8.2.16. *Town hall Lunch Meeting on Decadal Plan, 7 August, 12:45-13:34*
- 8.2.17. *Women in Astronomy Lunch Debate, 10 August, 11:00-14:00* (doc, p. 219)
- 8.2.18. *Town Hall Lunch Meeting on New Space Observatories, 14 August, 12:45-13:34*

8.3. *IAU XXVIII General Assembly, Beijing, 2012* (oral)

VP Cheng Fang informed the EC members that the IAU XXVIII GA in Beijing, 2012, will be held in the new Olympic Convention Center. Efforts are being made to freeze the registration fee in Yuan at a level of USD 500. Suggestion: use the mid-GA Saturday as a working day, and end the GA in the second week on Thursday.

8.4. *IAU XXIX General Assembly, 2015. Letters-of-Intent for proposals to host*

8.4.1. *Calgary, Canada* (doc, p. 221)

8.4.2. *Paris, France* (doc, p. 223)

8.4.3. *Hawaii, USA* (doc, p. 225)

Bid books from the three contenders arrived on time and were distributed among the EC members on the spot. Presentations of the three bids will be given during the GA in EC86 on Thursday 6 August, 09:00 – 10:30 hr. The EC will vote on the issue in EC86 on Wednesday 12 August, 11:00 – 12:30 hr. The selected organizer of the IAU XXIX GA in 2015 will be announced in Session 2 of the GA, Thursday 13 August.

**\*9. International Year of Astronomy 2009**

9.1. *Report by EC-WG IYA2009 chair CJC* (in IB103; late doc, p. 227)

The President gave an extensive report of IYA activities all over the world, coordinated by her EC-WG-IYA. P-E Bob Williams is in charge of the two-day Closing Ceremony, 9-10 January 2010 in Padova, co-organized by IAU, INAF and UNESCO. A Committee of Nine is charged to draw up a program. The IAU representatives are: Bob Williams, Catherine Cesarsky and George Miley.

9.2. *Statement of the IAU by CJC for UN-COPUOS, Vienna, 9 February 2009* (doc, p. 231)

9.3. *Eddington plague on Príncipe. IAU sponsoring* (doc, p. 235)

9.4. *IYA presentation at World Science Forum, Budapest, November 2009* (doc, p. 237)

9.5. *EC-WG IYA2009 finances* (late doc, p. 238a)

**\*10. Partnership with UNESCO-WHC Thematic Initiative Astronomy and World Heritage**

10.1. *MoU, signed 30 October 2008* (doc, p. 239)

10.2. *New Commission 41 WG on Astronomy and World Heritage. Circulars.* (doc, p. 245)

10.3. *C41/WG-AWH presentation at the GA Inaugural Ceremony* (doc, p. 285)

**\*11. Partnership with the Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation**

11.1. *Gruber Cosmology Prize*

The PPGF, in an e-Newsletter dd. 30- March 2009, announced the continuation of its Prize program.

11.1.1. *Gruber Cosmology Prize 2008. Report by Bob Williams* (oral)

The P-E reported about the 2009 Prize being awarded to J.R. Bond (Canada) at Harvard Observatory.

11.1.2. *Gruber Cosmology Prize 2009.* (doc, p. 287)

This year's Prize theme is somewhat broader than pure cosmology. The GS was informed about the Gruber Cosmology Prize 2009 winners. The PPGF and the IAU will issue their Press Releases on 27 May to announce the 2009 Prize winners. The 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of PPGF founder Peter Gruber will be celebrated with on 1 July in New York, USA.

11.1.3. *Selection of new member 2010 Advisory Board*

Present IAU representatives in the Advisory Board are Ekers, Peebles and Linde. Peebles is about to resign and has to be replaced. A preference was expressed to recommend Wendy L. Freedman (Pasadena, CA, USA).

- 11.2. *PPGF Fellowship*  
 11.2.1. *PPGF Fellowship 2007, 1 January – 31 December 2008* (doc, p. 289)  
 11.2.2. *PPGF Fellowship 2008, 1 October 2008 – 1 October 2009*

11.2.3. *PPGF Fellowship 2009*

The selection committee (Engvold, Cheng Fang, Stavinschi, van der Hucht) is reviewing five applications and will announce selection by 15 May.

**\*12. Partnership with the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters**

- 12.1. *MoU with NASL* (doc, p. 293)  
 12.2. *IAU involvement in the Kavli Prize in Astrophysics 2010* (oral, O.E.)  
 12.3. *NASL involvement in the IAU General Assembly* (late doc, p. 294a)

Rather than the NASL sponsoring something like the IAU GA Invited Discourses, the EC agreed with the Officers to suggest the following alternative: a dedicated Astronomy Education Lunch Meeting (for ~200 people) on Tuesday, 11 August, in the GA Convention Center, inviting scientists, astronomy teachers and volunteers who wish to participate in teaching and educational organization, as well as representatives of countries developing in astronomy, to discuss improvement and expansion of the teaching of basic sciences including astronomy. This should be announced in a forthcoming IAU e-Newsletter, the IAU-web, and the GA newspaper, requesting interested parties to sign in. The Lunch Meeting should start with one or two introductory talks, followed by round table discussion.

Proposed Organizing Committee, from the IAU side: Catherine J. Cesarsky (P, IYA), George K. Miley (VP/DOC), Jean-Pierre De Greve (ISYA), Edward F. Guinan (TAD) and John B. Hearnshaw (WWDA). OC members to be appointed by the NASL: tbd. Costs: ~USD 10,000. If the NASL is willing to sponsor it, the Lunch will be called: the NASL Astronomy Education Lunch Meeting.

**AI-OM2009-2\*3 = AI-EC85-17 on GS:** *Propose to the NASL a dedicated Astronomy Education Lunch Meeting (for ~ 200 people), on Tuesday 11 August 2009, to be sponsored by the NASL. Due: asap.*

[Done: 21 April 2009; agreed by NASL director 23 April 2009; details to be worked out by Bob Williams and George Miley.]

**\*13. IAU Divisions, Commissions, Working Groups**

- 13.1. *Triennial reports 2006 – 2009* (in *Transactions XXVIA*)  
 13.2. *History of the Minor Planet Center (to be published in IB 104)* (doc, p. 295)  
 13.3. *Brief history on the Division III CSBN (to be published in IB 104)* (doc, p. 299)

**\*14. IAU Scientific Meetings**

- 14.1. *Meetings in 2008*  
 14.1.1. *Post Meeting Reports* (doc, Annex, p. 1)  
 14.1.2. *APRIM 2008 report* (doc, Annex, p. 99)  
 14.2. *Meetings in 2009*  
 14.2.1. *IAU Symposia* (in *IB103*)  
 14.3. *Meetings in 2010*  
 14.3.1. *Proposals for IAU Symposia and a Regional IAU Meeting in 2010* (doc, Annex, p. 127)

- 14.3.2. *Divisional assessment of proposals* (doc, Annex, p. 129)

Only 11 proposals have been submitted for 2010, making the selection process complicated, especially as three proposals want to meet in Italy. More stimulation from the 12 IAU Division presidents and 40 IAU Commission presidents would have been very welcome. Nine Symposia were selected: S1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11.

Looking forward to the 2011 IAU Symposium selection process, AGS Ian Corbett suggests involving the six Vice-Presidents already at the stage of the Letter-of-Intent process, in order to increase the scientific quality of the IAU Symposia. If quantity and quality of IAU Symposium proposals does not improve by 2011, then perhaps a reduction of the number of IAU Symposia per year should to be

considered. The GS suggested designing an attractive poster soliciting proposals for IAU Symposia in 2011 and sending this poster for display to all astronomical institutes over the world.

- 14.4. *Co-sponsoring request: International Conference on Frontiers of Space Astrophysics: Gamma Ray Bursts & Neutron Stars, Recent Developments & Future Directions, 30 March – 4 April 2009, New Library, Alexandria, Egypt* (doc, Annex, p. 225)

The EC approved the decision of the Officers to sponsor this meeting to a limited extent: CHF 2000.-.

- 14.5 *APRIM 2011: proposal to hold this meeting 26-29 July in Thailand.* (late doc)

## \*15. IAU Publications

- 15.1. *Highlights of Astronomy* (doc, p. 301)

- 15.2. *IAU Transactions A, IAU Transaction B* (doc, p. 301)

The meeting discussed these volumes. The GS stated that editing these three volumes, although time-consuming (three man-month per volume, including chasing the authors) was very useful for him to get to know the Union and its activities. The meeting agreed on the usefulness of these volumes as a record, but expressed hesitation about how these records should be stored in this day and age: as a printed volume or just electronically and on the IAU web. Notably the *Transactions A, Reports on Astronomy* could be published on the Division/Commission web sites (some reports are already). AGS Ian Corbett suggested that in future, the *Highlights of Astronomy* on the IAU be put on web site as soon as possible, while only a few copies are printed. President Catherine Cesarsky emphasized that the *Highlights of Astronomy* are important as scientific proceedings; that the *Transactions B, Proceedings of the General Assemblies*, are of historic value and should be sent to, e.g., Academies; on the other hand, the *Transactions A, Reports on Astronomy* are of less value and should not be distributed widely. P-E Bob Williams questioned whether perhaps the effort needed to make these volumes is not becoming prohibitive. VP Brian Warner questioned the value of the present *Transactions A, Reports on Astronomy*, expressing his preference to read review papers available in the literature rather than the *IAU Reports on Astronomy*. Past President Ron Ekers agreed on the usefulness of *Highlights* and *Transactions*. VP Cheng Fang expressed his wish to have all three volumes just on the IAU web. A complicating factor in making decisions on this matter is the contract that the IAU has with Cambridge University Press. AGS Ian Corbett will discuss these matters during his annual meeting with CUP next month.

In the discussion whether the next GS should have help from the previous GS in editing the three volumes (which was not the case in the past), the GS pointed out that it would be very instructive for the new AGS to assist his GS in these matters, rather than ask the past GS.

[In any case, the current GS is not available, since as of 1 September 2009, he will return to his full time job at his home institute (SRON Utrecht) with new projects assigned to him].

- 15.3. *Proceedings of Symposia* (doc, p. 301)

- 15.4. *Overview IAU Symposia Proceedings 2006-2008* (doc, p. 304)

- 15.5. *IAU Editorial Board* (doc, p. 305)

- 15.6. *Proceedings of Regional IAU Meetings* (doc, p. 303)

- 15.7. *IAU Information Bulletins* (doc, p. 303)

- 15.8. *IAU e-Newsletters* (doc, p. 303)

Ron Ekers stressed that the IAU web should be the gateway getting in touch with colleagues in the various fields of astronomy.

## \*16. IAU Educational Programs of Division XII / Commission 46

- 16.1. *PG International Schools for Young Astronomers* (report *Transactions XXVIA*)

- 16.1.1. *ISYA 2009 on Trinidad & Tobago* (doc, p. 309)

- 16.2. *PG Teaching for Astronomy Development* (report *Transactions XXVIA*)

- 16.3. *PG World Wide Development of Astronomy* (report *Transactions XXVIA*)

- 16.4. *The Development Oversight Committee (DOC)* (doc, p. 313)  
 16.5. *Co-sponsoring of COSPAR Capacity Building Workshops* (report *Trans. XXVIIA*, doc, p. 319)

**\*17. International organizations with representatives from the IAU**

- 17.1. *ICSU GA Maputo 2008 report* (doc, p. 320)  
 17.2. *ICSU letter on visa issues, dd. 26-Feb-2009* (doc, p. 325)  
 17.3. *UN-COPUOS. Report on aspects of NEOs, with IAU chapter* (doc, p.327)

- 17.4. *IAU representatives triennium 2009-2012* (doc, p. 343)

The meeting suggested that not only the current representatives should be asked about their continuation, c.q. replacement, but also the presidents of the relevant IAU Division. Suggestions were made for various replacements.

**\*18. EC86, August 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

EC86-1	Sunday	2 August	10:00-17:00 hr	with outgoing Division Presidents
	Tuesday	4 August	14:00-17:30 hr	<b>Inaugural Ceremony and Session 1</b>
EC86-2	Thursday	6 August	09:00-10:30 hr	with IAU XXIX GA (2015) proposers
EC86-3	Wednesday	12 August	11:00-12:30 hr	preparing for Session 2
	Thursday	13 August	14:00-17:30 hr	<b>Session 2 and Closing Ceremony</b>

**\*19. EC87, August 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

EC87 Friday 14 August 09:00-17:00 hr with incoming Division Presidents

**\*20. EC88, 10-12 May 2010, Baltimore, MD, USA**

Host: Bob Williams

**\*21. EC89, May 2011. Suggestions for venue**

**\*22. Any other business**

22.1. *Beatriz Barbuy and the 2009 L'ORÉAL-UNESCO Awards*

The meeting congratulated VP Beatriz Barbuy with her 2009 L'ORÉAL-UNESCO Award.

22.2. *Request from the Fondazione Internazionale P.L. Giordano Bruno.*

The meeting was highly sympathetic to the request to honour Giordano Bruno. CSBN member Daniela Lazzaro, who thought that there is already an asteroid named after Bruno [not confirmed when checking Schmadel], will investigate the matter and advise the EC on this.

**AI-EC85-18 on Daniela Lazzaro:** Investigate what can be done to name a Trans-Neptunian dwarf planet after Giordano Bruno. **Due: 1 July 2009.** [Done. Daniela sees no role for CSBN, since Bruno has already an asteroid named after him.]

**\*23. Actions items**

23.1. *Old action items*

**AI-EC84-5 on GS and EA:** Check on European legislation with respect to privacy issues related to web sites. **Due: asap.**

**AI-EC84-8 on GS:** Submit a specific proposal of revisions of Statutes and Bye-Laws, as approved by the EC, to the National Members (Statutes VII.16, Bye-Laws II.7a), to be considered by the General Assembly. **Due: 3 February 2009.** [First to EC85]. **New due date: 15 May 2009.** [Done 12 June 2009]

**AI-EC84-31 on GM, IC:** Phrase resolution on vision of Strategic Plan and discuss with Resolution Committee (WR § IV.14b). **Due: 3 May 2009.** [Done]

**AI-EC84-32 on VP GM and all EC:** Carry out roadmap of Miley's Strategic Plan.  
**Due: progressive.**

\* \* \*

**AI-OM2009-1\*1 on GS:** Invite incoming IAU P-E, AGS and three VPs to register for the IAU XXVII GA and offer financial support if needed. **Due: 1 February 2009.** [Done]

**AI-OM2009-1\*3 on GS:** If no dues payments have been received from National Members Egypt, Peru, South Africa and Tajikistan by 1 April 2009, urgent reminders will be sent to them. **Due: 1 April 2009.** [Done]

**AI-OM2009-1\*4 on GS:** Submit the IAU budget 2010-2012 to EC85, in CHF and in €, together with the recommendations from the Finance Sub-Committee, and subsequently to the National Members. **Due: asap.** [Done 12 June 2009]

**AI-OM2009-1\*6 on GS:** Submit the draft revised Statutes/Bye-Laws/Working Rules to EC85 and the National Members. **Due: 1 March 2009.** [Done 12 June 2009]

**AI-OM2009-1\*9 on GS:** Contact the IAU National Members and solicit members for a 10-member Nominating Sub-Committee. **Due: asap** [Will be done as soon as (by 1 July 2009) the names of the Nomination Committee members are known to the IAU Secretariat.]

**AI-OM2009-1\*14 on GS:** In next IAU IB and e-Newsletter, solicit young talent to participate in the C46 PGs. **Due: progressive.**

**AI-OM2009-1\*15 on EA and P-E:** Obtain and distribute hard copies of Bengt Gustafsson's report and distribute it. It should also be on the IAU website. Arrange for the editor of the GA2009 newspaper, Steiner, to write article and, if Bengt is there, publish an interview. Ask ICSU for 100 copies of "Freedom and Responsibility in Science" documents. **Due: asap.** [Done. Hard copies will be available for EC86 and EC87. Link made on IAU web site / Scientific Meetings / Rules and Guidelines / Introduction.]

\* \* \*

**AI-OM2009-2\*1 on GS:** Inform the members of the EC Advisory Group on Hazards of Near Planetary Objects about the new ToR and ask whether they wish to continue their membership of the EC-AC for the next triennium. **Due: asap.** [Done 22 June 2009]

**AI-OM2009-2\*3 on GS:** Draft letter to the National Members to explain the fraudulent actions which took place at the IAU Secretariat over the period 1987 – 2007. **Due: asap.**

**AI-OM2009-2\*4 on GS:** Propose to the NASL a dedicated Astronomy Education Lunch Meeting (for ~ 200 people) on Tuesday 11 August 2009, to be sponsored by the NASL. **Due: asap** [Done: 21 April 2009. Approved]

\* \* \*

**AI-EC85-1 on P:** Prepare a document on the procedures of the SNC. **Due: 1 July 2009.**

**AI-OM2009-2\*1 = AI-EC85-2 on GS:** *Inform the members of the EC Advisory Group on Hazards of Near Planetary Objects about the new ToR; ask for a triennial report; and ask whether they wish to continue their membership of the EC-AC for the next triennium. Due: asap.* [Done 22 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-3 on GS:** *Contact the chair and vice-chair of the Division III Committee on Small Bodies Nomenclature (CSBN) and ask whether they would agree to the promotion of the CSBN to EC Working Group, reporting to the EC, while keeping the Division III President informed. Due: asap.*

[Not done, see [AI-EC85-4](#) on P-E here below.]

**AI-OM2009-2\*2 = AI-EC85-4 on P-E:** *Contact the Division III presidency and ask for their consent to promote WG-PSN and CSBN to EC Working Groups, reporting to the EC, while keeping the Division III President informed. Due: asap.*

[Done differently, 24 April 2009. The P-E agreed with the VP of Division III, Karin Meech, that WG-PSN and CSBN should stay DIII Working Groups, while together they should form a new dedicated EC-WG on Naming Dwarf Planets. Division III should solve this issue at the GA.]

**AI-EC85-5 on VP GM:** *Put the report "Astronomy for the Developing World - Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" on the IAU web and to produce glossy hard copies. Due: 1 June 2009.*

**AI-EC85-6 on VP GM:** *Write article for the GA daily newspaper "Estrela D'Alva" on the report "Astronomy for the Developing World - Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" and to submit it to the editor Joao E. Steiner. Due: 1 June 2009.*

**AI-EC85-7 on P-E and VP GM:** *Formulate a second resolution on the "Strategic Plan 2010 – 2020" with financial consequences. Due: 3 May 2009.* [Done, and submitted]

**AI-EC85-8 on GS:** *Prepare statement on financial issues for past Officers and the National Members. Due: asap.* [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-9 on GS and EA:** *Prepare briefing document on fraud issues. Also on for the press, just in case. Due: asap.*

**AI-EC85-10 = AI-OM2009-2\*3 on GS:** *Draft letter to the National Members to explain the fraudulent actions which took place at the IAU Secretariat over the period 1987 – 2007. Due: asap.* [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-11 on GS:** *put pie chart of IAU budget in IAU web. Due: asap.*

**AI-EC85-12 on GS.** *Submit financial reports and proposals for revision of Statutes and Bye-Laws to the National Members. Due: 15 May 2009.* [Done and distributed, 12 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-13 on GS.** *Give Armenia, Bolivia and Peru final notification of status of their arrears and ask them their dues before 31 July 2009. Failure to do so will unfortunately automatically cause suspension as National Member. Due: May 15 2009.* [Done 23 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-14 on GS:** *inform Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama and Vietnam that they qualify for National Membership of the IAU pending approval of the General Assembly, ask for complementary details, and invite National Representatives and dignitaries to the GA. Due: asap.* [Done 22 June 2009]

**AI-EC85-15 on GS:** *ask all GA Business Meeting organizers whether they want to provide their agendas published in the GA program book. Due: asap.* [Done 30 April 2009. Some responded.]

**AI-EC85-16 on GS:** *ask the Press Officer to design a high visibility poster of the IAU to be on display throughout the GA at a most conspicuous place. Due: asap.* [Done 23 June 2009]

**AI-OM2009-2\*3 = AI-EC85-17 on GS:** *Propose to the NASL a dedicated Astronomy Education Lunch Meeting (for ~ 200 people), on Tuesday, 11 August 2009, to be sponsored by the NASL. Due: asap*  
[Done: 21 April 2009; agreed by NASL director 23 April 2009; details to be worked out by Bob Williams and George Miley.]

**AI-EC85-18 on Daniela Lazzaro:** *Investigate what can be done to name a Trans-Neptunian dwarf planet after Giordano Bruno. Due: 1 July 2009.* [Done. Daniela sees no role for CSBN, since Bruno has already an asteroid named after him.]

**\*24. Closure of EC85**