



28th November, 2024

Dear A2 Commission Member:

Let us provide you with some information about several issues of our Commission after the XXXII IAU General Assembly held in Cape Town last August.

1) New Organizing Committee

After the elections realized before IAU GA and some later process, the positions of the Commission for the term 2024-2027 are:

- Alberto Escapa (President)
- Jolanta Nastula (Vice-President)
- Laura Fernández (Secretary)
- Zinovy Malkin (Past President)
- Tobias Nilsson
- David Salstein
- Harald Schuh
- Jean Souchay
- Mian Zhang
- Robert Heinkelmann (IAG representative)
- Daniela Thaller (IERS representative)
- Oleg A. Titov (IVS representative)

We deeply thank all A2 Organizing Committee past members in the triennium 2021-2024 for their work and efforts!

2) Working groups (WGs)

The kick off of two Commission WGs is in progress. They are joint working groups with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service (IERS), so already approved from the side of those organizations. The first one is the IERS Joint Working Group Prediction of Earth Orientation Parameters (PEOP) and the second one the IAG Joint Working Group Consistent Improvement of the Earth Rotation Theory (CIERT).

3) IAU Symposium 401: Advancing Reference Systems, Ephemeris, and Standards

IAU supported as an IAU Symposium the meeting "Advancing Reference Systems, Ephemeris, and Standards: from the Earth and the Moon to Solar System Bodies" (IAUS 401) that will be held from August 4 to 9, 2025 at the National University of La Plata (UNLP), La Plata (Argentina).

The IAU Symposium 401 was a joint proposal of our Commission with the IAU Commissions A3 Fundamental Standards and X2 Solar System Ephemerides, and the Working Groups Time Metrology Standards and Cartographic Coordinates & Rotational Elements.

The IAUS 401 registration, abstracts submission, and IAU travel grant are already open. The symposium will be in a hybrid format, to welcome both in-person and online participation.

For additional information and contact details please refer to IAUS 401 website <https://iaus401.fcaglp.unlp.edu.ar>.



Commission A2 Rotation of the Earth International Astronomical Union

4) IAU issues

There are two relevant administrative process opened at IAU. The first one is the application for Individual and Junior Membership in the IAU. The details can be found at <https://www.iau.org/news/announcements/detail/ann24027> and the deadline is 15 December 2024. Please, distribute this information among your colleagues. It is especially important to foster the affiliation of young researches to our Commission and Division A Fundamental Astronomy.

The second one is the 2024 IAU PhD Prize. There is one prize for each IAU Division to recognize the most remarkable work during the previous year. The deadline is 15 December 2024 and more information is available at <https://www.iau.org/news/announcements/detail/ann24026>.

5) Other forthcoming meetings

In addition to IAUS 401, several meetings of interest for our Commission are scheduled during the last part of 2024 and 2025. For example:

- AGU Fall Meeting 2024 (Washington D.C., December 9-13)
- EGU General Assembly 2025 (Vienna, April 27-May 2)
- IAG Scientific Assembly 2025 (Rimini, September 1-5)

To keep posted, recall that our colleagues from IERS Central Bureau have an excellent announcement service (<https://www.iers.org/iers/en/newsmeetings/forthcomingmeetings/forthcoming.html>). It is also possible to receive the information via e-mail by subscribing to IERS messages (https://www.iers.org/Login/Login/EN/login_node.html).

Feedback about these matters or other of interest to our Commission are very welcome. More information (reports, resolutions, etc.) can be found at the Commission web page https://www.iau.org/science/scientific_bodies/commissions/A2/info.

Sincerely,

Alberto Escapa, on behalf of the Commission A2 Organizing Committee