

CHAPTER II

TWENTY NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BUSINESS SESSIONS

SECOND SESSION: Thursday, 12 august 2015, 16:00-18:00

**Chaired by Norio Kaifu, President of the IAU
Hawai'i Convention Center, Honolulu, HI**

1. Opening and Welcome

The President of the IAU, Prof. Norio Kaifu, welcomed the delegates and members to the second business session of the General Assembly. The President invited the General Secretary, Dr. Thierry Montmerle, to start the business session.

2. Individual Membership

The General Secretary reported that, after screening by the Membership Committee, IAU National Members nominated 1186 new Individual Members, and Division Presidents nominated 13 new Individual Members. The list of new Members was projected on the screen.

3. Deceased Members

The Executive Committee regretfully reported the decease of 348 Individual Members of the Union, since August 2012. The General Secretary displayed their names on slides, and the General Assembly observed a one-minute silence in their respectful memory.

4. Appointment of the Official Tellers

The Official Tellers were duly appointed, and confirmed that the quorum requirements for the National Representatives were duly satisfied.

5. Resolutions

The Resolutions submitted to the General Assembly were examined by the Resolutions Committee, Chaired by Ian Corbett. They were all “B” type, i.e., with scientific content. They were submitted in English and published in the GA Newspaper (“Kai‘aleiaka - The Milky Way”, issue 1, pag. 13) before the vote. The French version was made available on the IAU web site after their adoption.

Article last updated 17 March 2023

These Resolutions were:

B1 on the IAU Strategic Plan 2010-2020: Astronomy for the Developing World.

B2 on recommended zero points for the absolute and apparent bolometric magnitude scales.

B3 on recommended nominal conversion constants for selected solar and planetary properties.

B4 on the Protection of Radio Astronomy Observations in the Frequency Range 76 - 81 GHz from Interference Caused by Automobile Radars.

After discussion and clarifications the four Resolutions were unanimously approved.

6. Elected Division Presidents and Vice-Presidents

The General Secretary presented the names of the Division Presidents and Vice-Presidents that were elected by the Members of the respective Division.

The list is as follows:

Division A: Fundamental Astronomy

President: Anne Lemaître (Belgium)

Vice-President: Daniel Hestroffer (France)

Division B: Facilities, Technologies, and Data Science

President: Pietro Ubertini (Italy)

Vice-President: Michael Burton (Australia)

Division C: Education, Outreach, and Heritage

President: John Hearnshaw (New Zealand)

Vice-President: Susana Deustua (USA)

Division D: High Energy Phenomena and Fundamental Physics

President: Chryssa Kouveliotou (USA)

Vice-President: Elena Pian (Italy)

Division E: Sun and Heliosphere

President: Yihua Yan (China, Nanjing)

Vice-President: Sarah Gibson (USA)

Division F: Planetary Systems and Bioastronomy

President: Nader Haghighipour (USA)

Vice-President: Gonzalo Tancredi (Uruguay)

Division G: Stars and Stellar Physics

President: Corinne Charbonnel (France)

Vice-President: David Soderblom (USA)

Division H: Interstellar Matter and Local Universe

President: Bruce Elmegreen (USA)

Vice-President: Leonardo Testi (Italy)

<i>Division</i>	<i>Commission</i>	<i>Title</i>
A	A1	Astrometry
	A2	Rotation of the Earth
	A3	Fundamental Standards
	A4	Celestial Mechanics & Dynamical Astronomy
B	B1	Computational Astrophysics
	B2	Data & Documentation
	B3	Astroinformatics & Astrostatistics
	B4	Radio Astronomy
	B5	Laboratory Astrophysics
	B6	Astronomical Photometry & Polarimetry
	B7	Protection of Existing & Potential Observatory Sites
C	C1	Astronomy Education & Development
	C2	Communicating Astronomy with the Public
	C3	History of Astronomy
	C4	World Heritage and Astronomy
D	D1	Gravitational Wave Astrophysics
E	E1	Solar Radiation and Structure
	E2	Solar Activity
	E3	Solar Impact throughout the Heliosphere
F	F1	Meteors, Meteorites, and Interplanetary Dust
	F2	Exoplanets and the Solar system
	F3	Astrobiology
G	G1	Binary and Multiple Star Systems
	G2	Massive Stars
	G3	Stellar Evolution
	G4	Pulsating Stars
	G5	Stellar & Planetary Atmospheres
H	H1	Local Universe
	H2	Astrochemistry
	H3	Planetary Nebulae
	H4	Stellar clusters throughout Cosmic Space and Time
J	J1	Galaxy Spectral Energy Distributions
	J2	Intergalactic medium

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Commission</i>	<i>Title</i>
D-J	X1	Supermassive Black Holes, Feedback & Galaxy Evolution
A-F	X2	Solar System Ephemerides

Division J: Galaxies and Cosmology

President: : Claus Leitherer (USA)

Vice-President: Matthew Malkan (USA)

The Assembly took note.

7. New Commissions

The General Secretary recalled that, following the restructuring of the Divisions at the XXVIII General Assembly in Beijing, also the Commissions had to be restructured. Following a call for confirming, cancelling or renaming the old Commissions and proposing new ones, the Executive Committee, in its 95th Meeting, approved the following Commissions:

7.1. *Division Commissions*7.2. *Cross-Divisions Commissions***8. Elected Commissions Presidents and Vice-Presidents**

The General Secretary presented the names of the Division Presidents and Vice-Presidents that were elected by the Members of the respective Division.

<i>Division</i>	<i>Commission</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
A	A1	Anthony G.A. Brown (Netherlands)	Jean Souchay (France)
	A2	Richard Gross (USA)	Florian Seitz (Germany)
	A3	Catherine Y. Hohenkerk (UK)	Brian Luzum (USA)
	A4	Cristian Beaug (Argentina)	Alessandra Celletti (Italy)
B	B1	Simon F. Portegies-Zwart (Netherlands)	Dmitrij Bisikalo (Russia)
	B2	Michael Wise (Netherlands)	Anja C. Schrder (South Africa)
	B3	Eric D. Feigelson (USA)	Prajval Shastri (India)
	B4	Gabriele Giovannini (Italy)	Anthony Beasley (USA)
	B5	Farid Salama (USA)	Helen J. Fraser (UK)
	B6	Saul J. Adelman (USA)	Antonio Mario Magalhaes (Brazil)
	B7	Richard F. Green (USA)	Constance Elaine Walker (USA)
C	C1	Beatriz Elena Garcia (Argentina)	Paulo Sergio Bretone (Brazil)
	C2	Pedro Russo (Netherlands)	Rick Fienberg (USA)
	C3	Xiaochun Sun (China Nanjing)	Wayne Orchiston (Thailand)
	C4	Clive L.N. Ruggles (UK)	Gudrun Wolfschmidt (Germany)
D	D1	Neil Gehrels (USA)	Marica Branchesi (Italy)
E	E1	Natalie A. Krivova (Germany)	Alexander Kosovichev (USA)
	E2	Lyndsay Fletcher (UK)	Paul S. Cally (Australia)
	E3	Ingrid Mann (Sweden)	Carine Briand (France)
F	F1	Jiri Borovicka (Czech Republic)	Diego Janches (USA)
	F2	Alain Lecavelier des Etangs (France)	Jack J. Lissauer (USA)
	F3	Sun Kwok (China Nanjing)	Masatoshi Ohishi (Japan)
G	G1	Andrej Prsa (USA)	Virginia Trimble (USA)
	G2	Artemio Herrero Davo (Spain)	orick S. Vink (UK)
	G3	John C. Lattanzio (Australia)	Marc Howard Pinsonneault (USA)
	G4	Christopher Simon Jeffery (UK)	Jaymie Matthews (Canada)
	G5	Ivan Hubeny (USA)	Carlos Allende Prieto (Spain)
H	H1	Eva K. Grebel (Germany)	Dante Minniti (Chile)
	H2	Thomas J. Millar (UK)	Edwin A. Bergin (USA)
	H3	Letizia Stanghellini (USA)	Albert Zijlstra (UK)
	H4	Richard De Grijs (China Nanjing)	Amanda I. Karakas (Australia)
J	J1	Denis Burgarella (France)	Cristina Carmen Popescu (UK)
	J2	Avery Abraham Meiksin (UK)	Hsiao-Wen Chen (USA)
D-J	X1	William Richard Forman (USA)	Thaisa Storchi-Bergmann (Brazil)
A-F	X2	Andrea Milani Comparetti (Italy)	William M. Folkner (USA)

9. Financial Matters

Report of the Finance Sub-Committee

Presented by Beatriz Barbuy (Chair)

Accounts 2013-2015

The Finance Committee received the Balance sheets reporting income and expenses, for the period 2013-2015, together with a report from the General Secretary Thierry Montmerle. The accounts show overall the usual pattern with however a few differences, listed below:

1. The income from countries is below expectation, due to many countries not having paid so far, with a difference of 130 KE in 2015. This involves small as well as large countries in terms of contributions. This is the same deficit amount indicated in the total budget 2013-2015. We expect that many of the default-payments will be fulfilled along 2015 (according to T. Montmerle there is a historic peak after the General Assemblies).
2. The extra expenses not foreseen in the budget approved in Beijing, concern the following items:
 - (a) Participation of Division Presidents in the Executive Committee meetings each year, amounting to an extra expense of around 90 kE. We understand that this was exceptional, due to the restructuration of the Divisions and Commissions. For the next triennium, it is expected to have one meeting in the third year, including the Division Presidents, in preparation of the following GA, as previously occurred since 2000s.
 - (b) Contribution to the International Year of Light, amount of 30 kE.
 - (c) Office for Astronomy Outreach (OAO), amount of 25 kE. T. Montmerle informed that Japan has been paying most of it.
 - (d) Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD), amounting to an average extra of 100 KE with respect to previous years when no OAD existed.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of the extra expenses 2a,b,c,d. We also recommend approval of the new budget lines on funding for other smaller items (e.g. Planet naming). A compensation of the extra expenses was obtained from the fact that the General Secretary lives in Paris, which is generally not the case, and will be needed again for the next triennium.

The FC members showed some concern as not having an external audit so far. We were informed by Thierry Montmerle that the auditor cannot close his accounts before all amounts are deposited, and it is now waiting for the final amount from CUP. We should receive the external audit report in due time in a few weeks, and certainly before preparing the final report in August.

Finally we recommend approval of the preliminary budget for 2016-2018 which includes a 2% adjustment in the due's unit to take into account inflation. The proposed unit for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 are, respectively 2800 €, 2860 € and 3035 €.

The present report should be read together with the report received by the FC from the General Secretary Thierry Montmerle, where more details are given (see Chapter V in this Volume).

The report was submitted to the vote of National Representatives, and the budget for 2016-2018 approved with one abstention.

10. Election of the Finance Committee

The General Assembly unanimously appointed the following Finance Committee (2016-2018):

Joao Alves (Austria)	2nd term
Kate J. Brooks (Australia)	2nd term
Zhanwen Han (China Nanjing)	elected, 1st term, Chair
J.J. Kavelaars (Canada)	elected, 1st term
Laszlo Kiss (Hungary)	elected, 1st term
Nikolaos D. Kylafis (Greece)	2nd term
Tushar P. Prabhu (India)	2nd term
Lee Anne M. Willson (USA)	2nd term

11. Election of the Membership Committee

The General Assembly unanimously appointed the following Membership Committee (2016-2018):

Sonia Ehlerova (Czech Republic)	elected, 1st term
William Harris (Canada)	elected, 1st term
Myungshin Im (Korea, Rep.)	2nd term
Lex Kaper (Netherlands)	2nd term
Daniela Lazzaro (Brazil)	elected, 1st term
Helmut O. Rucker (Austria)	2nd term, Chair
Ramotholo R. Sefako (South Africa)	2nd term
David Soderblom (USA)	elected, 1st term

12. Appointment of the Resolutions Committee

The General Assembly unanimously appointed the following Resolutions Committee (2016-2018):

Katia Cunha (Brazil)	elected, 1st term
Bruce G. Elmegreen (USA)	2nd term, Chair
Toshio Fukushima (Japan)	elected, 1st term
Sergei A. Klioner (Germany)	elected, 1st term
Rene Kraan-Korteweg (South Africa)	2nd term

13. Appointment of the Special Nominating Committee

The General Assembly unanimously appointed the following Resolutions Committee (2016-2018):

• *IAU members ex-officio:*

Silvia Torres-Peimbert (President, Mexico; Chair)
Norio Kaifu (Past President, Japan)

• *IAU Advisors:*

Piero Benvenuti (General Secretary; Italy)
Teresa Lago (Assistant General Secretary; Portugal)

• *Appointed members:*

Xavier Barcons (Spain)
 Matthew Colless (Australia)
 Thomas Henning (Germany)
 Dimitri Pourbaix (Belgium)
 Monica Rubio (Chile)

14. Election of the Executive Committee 2015-2018

The General Assembly unanimously appointed the following Executive Committee (2016-2018):

President	Silvia Torres Peimbert (Mexico)
President-Elect	Ewine van Dishoeck (Netherlands)
General Secretary	Piero Benvenuti (Italy)
Assistant General Secretary	Teresa Lago (Portugal)
Vice-President	Renée Kraan-Korteweg (South Africa)
Vice-President	Xiao-Wei Liu (China, Nanjing)
Vice-President	Dina Prialnik (Israel)
Vice-President	Debra Elmegreen (USA)
Vice-President	Ajit Kembhavi (India)
Vice-President	Boris Shustov (Russia)
Advisor	Norio Kaifu (Japan)
Advisor	Thierry Montemerle (France)

15. Date and location of the XXXI General Assembly in 2021

The XXXI General Assembly will take place a Busan, Republic of Korea, on August 16-27, 2021.