

IAU Commission 31 (Time)  
Circular 7, 26 February 2003

Dear colleagues,

Here are some informations or events related to our Commission

1) Election of officers for the triennium 2003-2006

For 2003-2006, the present vice-president D.N. Matsakis will be president of Commission 31.

For the future vice president, one candidate has been proposed and has agreed to serve: Dr Pascale Defraigne from the Royal Observatory of Belgium. She is well known for her research activities on time transfer, Earth tides and nutation. Because she is the only candidate who accepted the nomination, I think there is no problem to consider that she is designated as the next vice president. Please let me know by 10 March 2003 if you see an objection to this procedure.

2) IAU GA and related deadlines

The XXV IAU General Assembly takes place in Sydney, Australia, July 13-26 2003 (see <http://www.astronomy2003.com>).

Please note the following deadlines:

\*1 March 2003: Submit abstracts for all events of the GA.

\*30 April 2003: Early registration to GA.

Of particular relevance to our commission:

\*Commission 31 business meeting: Friday 18 July, session 2 (morning) in a room named Sky1.

Note that, in the same room, the other 3 sessions of that day (session 1 morning, sessions 3 and 4 afternoon) will be devoted to Commission 19 (Rotation of the Earth)

\*Division 1 meetings: 4 sessions on Thursday 17 July, 1 session on Monday 21 July.

\*JD16: The International Celestial Reference System: Maintenance and future realization: Tuesday 22 July.

3) Coming meeting:

A Colloquium on the UTC Timescale will be held at Istituto Elettrotecnico Nazionale Galileo Ferraris (IEN) in Torino, Italy from 28-30 May 2003. The purpose of the colloquium is to discuss the future of the UTC timescale. To my knowledge, no web page is available at this date. Additional information can be obtained from the Chairman of the ITU Special Rapporteur

Group (SRG) on 'The future of the UTC time scale', Ron Beard  
(Ronald.Beard@nrl.navy.mil).

Best wishes,

Gerard Petit  
President, Commission 31

PS. The web page of Commission 31 (<http://www.bipm.org/IAU31> ) is updated  
as needed. Please feel free to comment and moreover contribute to the site.