

IAU Commission 31 (Time)
Circular 8, 4 April 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.

As next vice-president, following the past circular 7, I received only favorable comments and no objection to the procedure. Therefore Dr Pascale Defraigne from the Royal Observatory of Belgium has been nominated to the IAU executive committee as next VP.

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:

*30 April 2003: Early registration to GA.

*15 May 2003: Registration for those presenting papers.

*15 May 2003: Submission of abstracts for posters (see section 4 below)

3) Coming meeting:

3.1: International Telecommunication Union - Special Rapporteur Group 7A is pleased to organize, in co-operation with Istituto Elettrotecnico Nazionale Galileo Ferraris, the Colloquium on the UTC Timescale, which will be held in Turin (Italy) on 28-29 May 2003.

For information about the Meeting, please explore the web site, which will be regularly updated:

open http://www.ien.it/events/index_i.shtml, then click on International Telecommunication Union "Colloquium on UTC Timescale", 28-29 maggio 2003, Torino (Italy)

3.2: Journ es 2003 "Astrometry, geodynamics and solar system dynamics: from milliarcseconds to microarcseconds"

St Petersburg, Russia, 22-25 September 2003.

See the web site: <http://www.ipa.nw.ru/conference/2003/>

4) Recent information for posters at IAU GA

The following has been transmitted to me on 27 March 2003

INFORMATION REGARDING PRESENTATIONS AT COMMISSION AND
WORKING GROUP
MEETINGS

Following recent discussions, the General Assembly NOC has agreed to enable the display of posters related to meetings of Working Groups and Commissions (including their Working Group meetings or other specialised

meetings). Display in the general poster area of the communal Exhibition

Hall is recommended because this would provide maximum exposure.

However,

some groups with short meetings and small numbers of posters may prefer locations near their meeting rooms. This may be possible on request.

As

specified in IAU Information Bulletin 92, the space available for each poster will be 1.0 metre in width and 1.2 metre in height (enough for an

A0-size poster in portrait format).

Abstracts will be considered for publication in the GA Abstracts Book if

they are emailed to ICMS (r.innes@icmsaust.com.au) before May 15.

The on-line form on the GA website cannot be used for this purpose.

ICMS

has requested that each meeting Convenor emails a single Word file containing all abstracts. The abstract style should be the same as the style associated with the on-line submission, and Bruce Peterson has provided the following specifications for the Abstracts Book:

Text: 10 pt Aerial

ABSTRACT TITLE IN CAPITAL LETTERS (60 characters maximum, including spaces)

Name of Presenting Author (Surname, Given names)

Affiliations of Presenting Author (limited to 3 lines)

Abstract (200 words maximum)

Co-Author(s): Surname, Given names.....limited to 3 lines (in italics)

A4 page, portrait, two columns, three abstracts per column (6 per page)

The NOC has had requests for the programs of some Working Group and specific Commission meetings to be included in the GA Programs Book.

Although the Book will be printed in Sydney, the content will be organised by the IAU Secretariat in Paris. The NOC has received no advice yet as to whether such programs can be included, but supports the idea. Therefore it suggests that interested groups should send copies of their programs to Hans Rickman, IAU General Secretary, as soon as possible and request inclusion in the Abstracts Book.

The NOC has received requests for information concerning the presentation facilities. A general specification has been included in IB 92: 'For all the major halls (Symposia, JDs and Special Sessions), both projection facilities for Powerpoint presentations and overhead transparencies will be available. If you require other forms of presentation, please let the Chair of your Scientific Organising Committee know what is needed as soon as possible. For the smaller rooms where most of the Commission/Division Meetings will take place overhead transparency facilities will be standard. For these rooms alternative means of presentation may be available, but are not guaranteed.' The NOC acknowledges that Powerpoint presentations will be required for some of the smaller meetings, and ICMS plans to contact all the groups and request their specific presentation requirements.

I hope I have explained these matters adequately. However, If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me at John.Whiteoak@csiro.au

John Whiteoak
Co-Chair NOC
27 March 2003

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.