

Minutes of the GA XXV Commission 15 Business Meetings

COMMISSION 15: PHYSICAL STUDIES OF COMETS AND MINOR PLANETS *L'ETUDE PHYSIQUE DES COMETES ET PETITES PLANETES*

President: H. Uwe Keller

Vice-President: Edward F. Tedesco

This report presents the minutes of the two Commission 15 Business Meetings held during General Assembly XXV.

1. Meeting Opening

The President opened the Business Meeting, welcoming members, consultants, and other interested audience. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. The agenda as presented by the President was adopted.

2. Necrology

The members stood for a moment in silence in honor of the five distinguished members of the Commission that had died during the preceding triennium:

- Mayo J. Greenberg (the Netherlands)
- Varvara P. Konopleva (Ukraine)
- Margita Kresakova (Slovakia)
- Vasilij I. Moroz (Russian Federation)
- John A. O'Keefe (USA)

3. Commission Officers

3.1. *New*

The Commission elected the following Officers and working group chair: President – E. Tedesco (USA), Vice-President – W. Huebner (USA), Chair of the Working Group for Comets – T. Yamamoto (Japan), and Members of the Organizing Committee - D. Bockelee-Morvan (France), H. Reitsema (USA), Y. Ma (China), and R. Schulz (the Netherlands).

3.2. *Continuing*

The following working group chair and organizing committee members are beginning their second term: Chair of the Working Group for Minor Planets - A. Cellino (Italy) and the following members of the Organizing Committee: A. Harris (Germany), N. Kiselev (Ukraine), L.-A. McFadden (USA), T. Michalowski (Poland), K. Muinonen (Finland), and M. V. Sykes (USA)

4. New Members and Consultants

33 new members and 11 consultants joined the Commission as shown in the table below. Except for the case, the spelling of each name is from the IAU membership list (in which: "All diacritical signs have been suppressed in the surnames given in upper case letters. Each surname is repeated in brackets, in lower case letters, showing whenever possible diacritical signs. NB: For German names, the following upper case letters: Ä, Ö, Ü are replaced by AE, OE and UE respectively.").

The primary distinction between Member and Consultant is that the former was a member of the IAU by the end of GA XXV. Membership information is also from the IAU membership list. If yours is incorrect, please notify E. Tedesco. (Note, however, that under the post-GA XXV IAU rules this distinction is largely moot.)

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People Joining the Commission at GA XXV

Status	Name		Country
	First	Last	
Member	Hidehiko	Agata	Japan
Consultant	R.	Allen	Canada
Member	Claudia	Angeli	Brazil
Consultant	A.	Bagatin	Spain
Member	Akiva	Bar-Nun	Israel
Consultant	Philippe	Bendjoya	Spain
Member	Daniel	Britt	USA
Consultant	Schelte	Bus	USA
Consultant	Schelte	Bus	USA
Member	Bryan	Butler	USA
Member	Jorge	Carvano	Brazil
Member	Martin	Connors	Canada
Member	Donald	Davis	USA
Consultant	Marco	Delbo	Italy
Consultant	A.	Delloro	Italy
Member	Thais	Diniz	Brazil
Member	Martin	Duncan	Canada
Member	Tony	Farnham	USA
Member	Reiko	Furusho	Japan
Member	Perry	Gerakines	USA
Member	Ricardo	Gil-Hutton	Argentina
Member	Edith	Hadamcik	France
Member	Ellen	Howell	USA
Member	Robert	Jedicke	USA
Member	Petrus	Jenniskens	USA
Member	J.	Kavelaars	Canada
Member	Hideyo	Kawakita	Japan
Member	Igor	Lukyanyk	Ukraine
Member	Karen	Magee-Sauer	USA
Member	Jean-Luc	Margot	USA
Consultant	Victoria	Meadows	USA
Member	Michael	Nolan	USA
Member	Jana	Pittichova	Slovakia
Member	Petr	Pravec	Czech Rep.
Member	William	Reach	USA
Consultant	Laura	Saba	Italy
Member	Antonijs	Salitis	Latvia
Member	Tomohiko	Sekiguchi	Japan
Member	Miquel	Serra Ricart	Spain
Consultant	Paolo	Tanga	France
Consultant	Jenni	Virtanen	Finland
Member	Diane	Wooden	USA
Member	Tetsuo	Yamamoto	Japan
Member	Masahisa	Yanagisawa	Japan

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5. Triennial Commission Report

The Commission decided to continue preparing the Triennial Report as for the three preceding reports: the research descriptions will be included in the printed version, while the references will be made available on the Commission's web site.

6. Commission Working Groups

6.1. Working Group for Minor Planets

The meeting was chaired by E. Tedesco since the current chair, A. Cellino, had been delayed enroute. As before, the Working Group for Minor Planets is formed by voluntary membership of those, who, e.g., wish to contribute to the Triennial Report. Topics discussed included: the accuracy of the absolute magnitudes, a possible waveband change of the asteroid absolute magnitude system from V to R, and the uses which people make of asteroid absolute magnitudes.

It was decided that the WGMP web site will be relocated but a new URL for it is not yet available¹.

6.2. Working Group for Comets

The Working Group for Comets chair, W. Huebner reported that the WGC discussed plans for a meeting on cometary/ISM compositions during their meeting.

It was decided that a WGC web site will be created but its URL is not yet available¹.

7. Resolutions

R. Schulz proposed the following resolution which, after some discussion and rewording, was adopted: *Commission 15, noting that comets are highly variable and noting that there are two missions to comets in the next triennium, strongly urges observers and observatory directors to provide extended observations around the times of the encounters, 2 January 2004 for stardust at comet Wild 2 and 4 July 2005 for Deep Impact at comet Tempel 1.*

8. Other

The restructuring of how the IAU is organized, in particular the role of Commissions, dominated the meeting. A written justification, presumably submitted to the IAU EC by the Division, giving the accomplishments and objectives of each Commission will be required by the 2009 General Assembly in order for them to remain in existence. It was unclear, at the time of the GA, whether this EC approval is to be repeated every three (or six) years for both Commissions and Working Groups, or only for Working Groups.

Since most people attending the GA learned of this proposal only after arriving in Sydney (and even then, only by hearsay since the actual proposal was unavailable), no consensus regarding what to do in practice was reached. Instead, it was decided to discuss this among the Division III membership, as well as within each of the Division III Commissions and Working Groups, during the next three years and to present the results of those discussions at the next General Assembly.

See <http://www.iau.org/IAU/Organization/admdoc/usersguide.html>, and the links you will find there, for additional information on the new IAU organization. When the site is up, the Working Rules will be found at <http://www.iau.org/IAU/Organization/admdoc/workrulef.html>. These documents should serve as the basis for discussions regarding the revised organization.

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¹As of December 2004 the Commission 15 web site is at http://atlas.sr.unh.edu/IAU_Comm15/ When the WGC and WGMP web sites go online there will be links to them from the Commission home page.