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INFORMATION BULLETIN No 75

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EDITORIAL

While the last issue of the IAU Information Bulletin was still dominated by the results and reports of the XXIInd General Assembly, the present issue of the IB initiates the preparations for the XXIIIrd IAU General Assembly in August 1997 in Kyoto, Japan. In Section 1 of this IB you will find a list of dates and deadlines for this General Assembly. All colleagues who wish to contribute to this General Assembly and/or who plan to attend the Kyoto meeting are invited to read this list of dates and deadlines carefully. In particular I would like to stress that applications for IAU travel grants for the Kyoto meeting have to reach the Symposium SOCs or the General Secretary by the deadlines specified below. Since all available funds will be distributed on the basis of the applications received by the dates given, late applications for travel grants will not be possible.

The present issue of the Information Bulletin also marks the first half year of experience with IAU World Wide Web home page (<http://www.lsw.uni-heidelberg.de/iau.html>). The many comments which reached the General Secretary show that the information available on the WWW has been well received by the IAU community and that our home page is used frequently. We found that information on the Division and Commission Presidents (in Section 2 of the home page) and the addresses of individual members (Section 5) seem to be the most popular features of our WWW server. In this context I would like to urge once more all members with access to WWW to check the correctness of their addresses and to inform us about possible errors or changes.

This new issue of the Information Bulletin will be again included in the IAU WWW server. However, IB 74 will also be retained in a new section "Previous Information Bulletins". As you may have noticed, several other services have been added already to the home page during the past months. Among the recent additions are information pages of the IAU Divisions which can be used by the Division Presidents for announcements to the IAU community.

Among the tasks of the General Secretary explicitly mentioned in the IAU By-Laws is the preservation of the archives of the Union. These archives, which at present are kept at the Paris IAU office, were used extensively by Adriaan Blaauw for his recent book on the "History of the IAU" (published in 1994 by Kluwer, see IB 74, pages 67 and 81). At this occasion it became clear that the organization and present location o

the archives are not satisfactory and that a major overhaul has become necessary. I am pleased to report that Professor Blaauw agreed to take charge of this project and that work on the reorganization is now in full progress. As a former IAU President and as a most distinguished scientist with a broad international experience and a keen interest in historical issues Adriaan Blaauw is obviously an ideal person for this task.

We are therefore particularly grateful to Professor Blaauw for accepting to take care of this service to our Union.

May 1995

Immo Appenzeller
General Secretary

1. GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

1.1. THE XXIIIIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY, KYOTO, JAPAN, AUGUST 18-30, 1997

As announced in IB 74 the next IAU General Assembly will take place in Kyoto, Japan. The local (national) organisation will be under the direction of Professor Daiichiro Sugimoto. The format of the XXIIIrd GA will basically follow the example of XXIIrd GA in The Hague. It is again envisaged that the scientific programme will include about six topical Symposia, various Invited Discourses, and a number of Joint Discussions, Working Group Meetings and Special Sessions. In addition there will be the usual Commission Meetings and organisational sessions.

As in 1994 the Executive Committee will, as a rule, not accept sponsorship of other IAU Symposia or Colloquia during 3 months before the beginning and three months after the end of the General Assembly. However, the Executive Committee may consider one or two exceptions to this rule if suitable proposals are submitted for meetings taking place in East Asia just before or just after the General Assembly, provided such meetings do not overlap with the General Assembly programme, and provided their attendance can be combined with the General Assembly.

To discuss the proposals for the scientific programme of the XXIIIrd General Assembly (and the other meeting proposals for 1997) the IAU Executive Committee will meet in June 1996. All IAU members who wish to make proposals for the XXIIIrd General Assembly and/or who plan to participate in this General Assembly should take note of the DEADLINES listed below. To avoid problems these deadlines will have to be followed strictly.

1.2. GENERAL DEADLINES FOR THE XXIIIIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Submission of proposals for GA Symposia to the IAU Assistant General Secretary | April 15, 1996 |
| Submission of proposals for GA JDs to the IAU General Secretary | April 15, 1996 |
| EC meeting to decide about Symposia and JDs | June 1996 |
| Notification of Symposia and JD SOCs | July 1, 1996 |
| Submission of preliminary programme of GA Symposia, JDs, etc. | Sept. 1, 1996 |
| Special IB with GA preliminary programme, announcements concerning grants, registration forms, local information | October 1996 |
| Submission of Symposium grant applications to | |

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Symposium SOCs | Febr. 15, 1997 |
| Submission of GA grant applications to General Secretary | Febr. 15, 1997 |
| Submission of Abstracts to Symposium/JD SOCs | Febr. 15, 1997 |
| Notification of the grant applicants | before April 15, 1997 |
| Last day for Early Registration | May 1, 1997 |
| Beginning of meeting | Aug. 18, 1997 |
| End of meeting | Aug. 30, 1997 |

1.3. ADDITIONAL DEADLINES FOR ADHERING ORGANISATIONS, COMMISSIONS AND DIVISIONS

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Proposals for new IAU members from Commissions and Divisions | Nov. 15, 1996 |
| Submission of new Budget to Adhering Organisations | Dec. 15, 1996 |
| Submission of resolutions with financial implications | Febr. 15, 1997 |
| Proposals for new members from Adhering Organisations | March 15, 1997 |
| Proposals for GA agenda | March 15, 1997 |
| Submission of resolutions without financial implications | May 15, 1997 |

1.4. ERRATUM CONCERNING RESOLUTION B11 ADOPTED AT THE XXIIND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In the text of this resolution published in IB 74 the abbreviation IAG has been misspelled. We therefore repeat below the correct full text of this resolution:

Resolution n B11 on the Continuation and Extension of the activities of the Working Group on Astronomical Standards (WGAS)

proposed by the Working Group on Astronomical Standards (in which Commissions 4, 5, 8, 19, 24 & 31 participate) at the occasion of JD n 14 The XXIInd General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union

Considering that the interchangeability of observational data, whether processed or not, requires the widespread use of a common set of constants and algorithms that implement standard models used in fundamental astronomy,

Recommends that

1. the IAU Working Group on Astronomical Standards (WGAS) continue permanently and assume the responsibility for establishing and maintaining a set of constants, algorithms, and procedures,
2. the IAU WGAS identify single center at a suitable institution, under a world-wide reviewing board, to organise, maintain, and distribute electronically the set of constants, algorithms, and procedures, and
3. the center, and the IAU WGAS co-ordinate their activities with the IERS and the IAG.

IERS International Earth Rotation Service
IAG International Association of Geodesy

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2.1. 67TH MEETING OF THE IAU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 67th meeting of the IAU Executive Committee will take place in Canberra, Australia on August 18-21, 1995.

2.2. 68TH MEETING OF THE IAU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 68th meeting of the IAU Executive Committee is scheduled for June 1996. Matters to be submitted to this meeting should reach the office of the General Secretary before April 15, 1996. As usually, matters concerning submission of meetings must be directed to the Assistant General Secretary, for the same deadline.

3. DIVISIONS: INFORMATION CONCERNING DIVISION IV

Division IV Stars/Etoiles
Participating Commissions: 26, 29, 35, 36 & 45

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Other addresses of IAU Division Presidents are given in IB 74 p 27-29 and in the World Wide Web home page Section 2.

4. COMMISSION MATTERS

4.1. COMMISSION 5: DOCUMENTATION & ASTRONOMICAL DATA

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TASK GROUP ON NOMENCLATURE

How to refer to a source or designate a new one

from the IAU Commission 5 Task Group on Designations (for astronomical sources of radiation outside the solar system)
(current chair, H. R. Dickel)
(version 26 January 1995)

In general all source listings should always contain positional information and/or a second designation next to a principal designation in order to avoid ambiguities which can arise with a single designation.

Existing designations when used in listing, should never be altered and a bibliographical reference for the designation should be given.

When creating new designations, such as for newly discovered source(s), the following procedure is recommended:

Consult and follow the IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature
Think up an acronym of at least three characters and check the on-line Interactive Dictionary of Acronyms to be sure your acronym is unique
Consult representatives of the Clearing House if problems arise and specific advice is desired

References

IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature is revised every three years;
Interactive Dictionary of Acronyms is updated on a regular basis (i.e.
weekly)

Both are available on-line on the free info account installed on the Internet node simbad.u-strasbg.fr (130.79.128.4) or NSI/DECnet node SIMBAD (19588=28.916). Login as info, no password is required. For the IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature, just type IAU after the info prompt. The IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature is also available on the World-Wide-Web (accessible with Mosaic) at the URL address: <http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/iau-spec.html>
World-Wide-Web access to the Interactive Dictionary of Acronyms is under development; access will be announced in the home page of the Center de Données de Strasbourg (CDS) at the URL address: <http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/CDS.html>

ASCII, latex, and DVI versions of How to refer to a source or designate a new one and IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature are accessible by anonymous ftp at Internet node cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr

Clearing House

The Clearing House is a subset of the Task Group on Designations of IAU Commission 5 (current chair, H. Dickel, internet: lanie@astro.uiuc.edu). Other representatives are listed at the end of the IAU Recommendations for Nomenclature.

4.2. COMMISSION 6: ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAMS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BUREAU FOR ASTRONOMICAL
TELEGRAMS, 1994 by Brian G. Marsden, Director of the Bureau

Continuing the downward trend of the previous year, the number of IAU Circulars issued during 1994 was 208, the least for any year since 1988. The principal reason for the decrease has been the introduction, by arrangement with the Minor Planet Center, of the series of Minor Planet Electronic Circulars. This was the first full year of operation of that new service, which is offered at no extra charge to subscribers to the electronic version of the IAU Circulars, and which has significantly relieved the IAU Circulars by handling most of the data on unusual minor planets (or what are classed as such), including a number of objects that have been discovered beyond the orbit of Neptune.

The most exciting celestial event of the year was undoubtedly the collision of the numerous components of comet 1993e with Jupiter during July 16-22. The groundwork for this had been set on several IAU Circulars in 1993, the prediction following the comet's reappearance in the morning sky in December yielding impact times for the nine brightest components that were good to the quoted precision of 0.1 day. During "impact week" 15 consecutive Circulars documented the impacts in a rather concise manner. Much of the material included in this documentation was edited from the gigantic volume of material transmitted directly among observers via the automatic e-mail "exploder" set up for this purpose at the University of Maryland. At the same time, access to many of the electronic images themselves was immediately and freely available over the internet on numerous observatory "home pages" of the "world-wide web".

Instant broadcast communication of the above-mentioned types will obviously be the wave of the future. Exploders in Arizona and Japan automatically relay observations of supernovae, novae and variable stars generally. Useful though these can be for alerting observers to routine observations and supporting data, there is of course little guarantee concerning the reliability of the information. This is a particularly troublesome point when exploders are used to relay reported claims of discoveries of new objects. Misinformation and disinformation are then rampant, and even when a claimed discovery turns out to be correct, there has frequently been widespread confusion because of an erroneous or incomplete position specified for a nova or an erroneous NGC number for the host galaxy to

a supernova. Since the exploders serve hundreds, if not thousands, of professional and amateur astronomers, the total amount of time spent on wild-goose chases, or even just asking and answering questions that should be straightforward, is absolutely enormous. When the Central Telegram Bureau receives the report of an alleged discovery, it generally asks a few experienced astronomers (professional and amateur, spectroscopists and astrometrists) for confirmation. Since these confirmers are more-or-less the same people actually able adequately to confirm reports relayed via exploder, little time is lost between confirmation and publication on an IAU Circular of a discovery announcement that has a reasonable chance of being reliable and complete -and the total effort spent on anserine pursuits is minimized.

Twenty-three comets, about half of them new discoveries, were given provisional designations in 1994. This was very much the year for observations of split comets, for in addition to 1993e, the new periodic comet 1994o was seen to have five components, while one of the year's returning comets had three.

The year brought 37 discoveries of supernovae, the one in M51 on April 2 having been independently found by four groups of amateur astronomers (two visually, two using CCDs) during a 12-hour interval. Three galactic novae in the magnitude range 7-11 were reported by Japanese amateur astronomers, and an intense x-ray nova in Scorpius was also widely observed at optical and radio wavelengths.

The introduction of the Minor Planet Electronic Circulars was part of a package designed to utilise electronic communication and to encourage users to subscribe generally to the electronic information provided by the Central Bureau, thereby reducing the expense of printing and mailing the postcard versions of the IAU Circulars. The number of Computer Service subscribers (almost all of whom receive the IAU Circulars directly by e-mail), increased from 298 in January to 358 in December, during which time the number of subscribers to the printed version decreased from 619 to 531. In another year or so there should be a cross-over in the numbers of "electronic" and "printed" subscribers, the process being accelerated by a change in subscription-rate structure at the beginning of 1995 that maintained the cost of a combined electronic and printed subscription but reduced the fraction for electronic alone from 50 to 40 percent.

As has been the case for several years now, the majority of the Circulars were prepared by Associate Director Daniel W. E. Green, some being by the undersigned and a few by Gareth V. Williams. Williams also introduced several new features into the Computer Service, including lists of novae and supernovae, a set of the IAU Circulars since 1982 and a complete cross-referenced index back to 1922. As Administrator for the Planetary Sciences Division of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Donna Thompson has borne the principal responsibility for the administrative work of the Central Bureau, with part-time assistance from Muazzez Lohmiller.

4.3. COMMISSION 20: POSITIONS & MOTIONS OF MINOR PLANETS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINOR PLANET CENTER, 1994 by Brian G. Marsden, Director of the Center

Minor Planet Circulars (MPCs) were published on all twelve full-moon dates during 1994. The total number of pages, 1574, may at first sight suggest the least activity since 1989. However, the cost-cutting change in production made in Sept. 1993 implies that a page now provides 1.9 times the amount it provided previously. The equivalent number of "old" pages in 1994 is therefore about 2991, which represents a 52 percent increase over the previous record year of 1992. New numberings of minor planets in 1994 amounted to 411, a 4 percent increase over that same previous record year.

The Minor Planet Electronic Circulars (MPECs), introduced in Sept. 1993 as part of the cost-cutting needs both for the Minor Planet Center and the Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, have proven to be an extremely useful and convenient series for providing immediate information about unusual objects. As many as 180 MPECs were issued during 1994, and the automated format means that they can sometimes be prepared, distributed by e-mail and placed in the

Computer Service in only five minutes. As before, most of the MPECs involved earth-approaching minor planets, but ten of them were devoted to comets, and they have also become the principal medium for rapidly disseminating new data on the transneptunian objects. Seven new transneptunians, variously observed over arcs ranging from 23 to 86 days, were discovered during March-May. These followed the quartet from Sept. 1993 that were interestingly closer to Neptune's orbit than the two initial discoveries, but that were observed so perfunctorily that it was feared they would be lost. Three of these Sept. 1993 discoveries were recovered a year later on the basis of orbit computations in which it was assumed that these objects are -like Pluto- librating about the 2:3 mean-motion resonance with Neptune and currently at perihelion. Four more transneptunians -and another centaur, a little inside the orbit of Uranus- were also discovered in September. As for earth-approachers, the tiny object 1994 ES1 passed within 0.0011 AU of the earth on March 15, and 1994 XM1 came to a record 0.0007 AU on December 9. Rather larger was 1994 XL1, with a record small mean distance of 0.670 AU, discovered as it passed opposition at an aphelion distance of only 1.024 AU -a little smaller than the 1.028 AU of the earlier record-holder 1994 GL. Regular monthly "features" in the MPECs have been a summary of all the observable unusual objects, as well as updated versions of the "critical list" of poorly observed numbered minor planets.

As suggested in the previous report, a second edition of the Catalogue of High-Precision Orbits of Unnumbered Minor Planets was issued, the 151 page book containing 3969 multiple-opposition and 208 perturbed single-opposition entries. The orbits of 15587 short-arc single-opposition objects were published separately (and very concisely!) in a new 182 page edition of the Catalogue of Orbits of Unnumbered Minor Planets. Publication of a new edition of the Catalogue of Cometary Orbits also seems to be becoming an annual event, the 103 page 1994 edition involving 1417 apparitions of 866 individual comets. All three catalogues were also issued in computer form.

The number of subscribers to the printed MPCs was rather steady at 240-245 during the first two-thirds of the year, but there was then a noticeable decline to 230 in December, at which point subscription rates were increased to compensate for the reduced rates being offered in association with the Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams for the Computer Service. For those subscribing also to the Computer Service, the fraction charged for the printed MPCs increased from around 62 to 69 percent, and the monthly airmail surcharge for the MPCs increased from \$6.00 to \$7.50. The number of subscribers to the Extended Computer Service or (MPC diskette edition) remained rather steady at 26, and the monthly charge was increased from \$22.50 to \$25.00 at the end of the year.

Most of the processing of minor-planet observations, orbit computations, production of MPCs, MPECs and minor-planet catalogues, as well as the preparation of improved computer programs, is carried out by Minor Planet Center Associate Director G. V. Williams. The processing of cometary data (which in 194 included no fewer than 2658 observations of the various nuclei of comet 1993e) is mainly by the undersigned. Former Associate Director Conrad M. Bardwell has continued in particular to coordinate the astrometric observing program at Oak Ridge, and some orbit solutions have been made by Daniel W. E. Green. Syuichi Nakano has again served as ``our man in Japan'', collecting and processing data from Japanese amateur astronomers. Donna Thompson and Muazzez Lohmiller have handled the accounts, and Billy Duggan has ably attended to the printing, collating and stapling of the MPCs in the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory's print shop.

4.4. CORRECTION AND UPDATE OF ADDRESSES OF PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS OF COMMISSIONS

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Commission 28 Galaxies

from January to June

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VICE-PRESIDENT

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Amas stellaires & associations

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5. SCIENTIFIC & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

5.1. COMMISSION 38: EXCHANGE OF ASTRONOMERS

IAU TRAVEL GRANTS: GUIDELINES

Within the limitations imposed by the budget of the Commission as approved by the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union, funds are available to Commission 38 toward grants to qualified individuals to enable them to visit institutions abroad. It is intended, in particular, that the visitors should have ample time and opportunity to interact with the intellectual life of the host institution so that maximum benefit is derived by both sides. It is a specific objective of the programme that astronomy in the home country be enriched after

the applicant returns.

1. Candidates may be faculty/staff members, post-doctoral fellows, or graduate students at any recognised educational/research institution or observatory. All candidates must have an excellent record of research and must have made permanent and professional commitments to astronomy. The programme is designed to support both the work of young astronomers and established astronomers whose visits may benefit the country or institution visited. It is emphasised that all recipients should return to their home institutions or home countries upon the completion of their visits.
2. All visits must normally consist of a stay of at least 3 months at a single host institution. In special cases, shorter visits can be considered; stopover at other institutions en route may be permitted.
3. All visits must be formally agreed to by the Directors of the home and host institutions involved. Such endorsements must confirm that the proposed plan of study is a reasonable one and will be of benefit to astronomy.
4. All applicants must give details of funds currently available to her/him to finance her/his proposed visit including supporting documents. In particular, s/he must state what other applications s/he has submitted in efforts to obtain support from other sources and the status of such applications. In the event that an applicant receives funds, which may be used, in whole or in part, for the same proposed purpose from another source, s/he is required to revise her/his application or make a refund to the IAU. If dependants are to accompany the applicant, details must be given.
5. The amount of the grant will be governed by the cost of one return economy air fare and limited to the least expensive fare (such as PEX, APEX, etc.) between home and host institutions and normally is to be used by the applicant for such travel. With prior approval, the funds can instead be used wholly or in part for subsistence costs during the visit.

Some grants may be awarded on the basis of a one-way fare. An example is the case where highly qualified graduate students apply for funds to go abroad to begin graduate studies at an institution where they have been formally accepted.

6. Grants to attend symposia, summer schools, conferences, society meetings, etc. are outside the scope of the programme.

Grants will not normally be made for the sole purpose of obtaining observational data.

An individual should normally not expect to receive an IAU award for a second visit.

7. Each recipient is required to submit a brief report to the President of Commission 38 after her/his return from the visit. Acknowledgement of support from the Exchange of Astronomers Programme of the IAU should be made in any published paper resulting from the visit.

Application Procedure

1. An individual who wishes to apply for a grant under the IAU Exchange of Astronomers Programme should read the rules carefully to ensure that the circumstances of her/his case conform to the conditions under which IAU grants can be made. S/he should then proceed by formally submitting her/his request for a grant in the form of a letter to the President of Commission 38 (see § 4, below).

Each candidate must submit a curriculum vitae showing that s/he is professionally qualified, and must submit a viable plan of scholarly activity to be carried out during the visit.

The information supplied in those documents should be complete and detailed as it will be used to judge whether the proposal is in conformity with the aims

of the programme, whether the minimum initial requirements are being met, and whether the guidelines will permit a favourable decision. Any special circumstances must be carefully set forth.

2. It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange for the two confidential letters: endorsement from senior officials of the home and host institutions. These are to be sent without delay directly to the President of Commission 38. The

letters from both institutions should confirm that the applicant's proposed visit has the knowledge and support of the directors or senior academic/research officers of the institutions involved. Further they should state whether the applicant will be returning to a position at the home institution at the conclusion of the visit. Finally, they should confirm to the President of Commission 38 that the senior officials themselves have made every effort to obtain the necessary travel funds from their own institutions and from other resources within the respective countries.

The applicant must state who is responsible for her/his subsistence during the prolonged visit at the host institute, i.e. subsistence paid by the home or by the host institute, by a grant or fellowship or by any other means. Copies of the relevant documents should be submitted with application. In addition the applicant should provide information on the lowest available travel fare required.

3. As noted above, care should be taken to make the application as complete as possible and to include detailed statements rather than generalities. Material should be typed and single spaced. The application will be considered as quickly as possible, but it should be recognised that information and opinions must be exchanged among the President, Vice-Presidents, and/or other Members of the Organising Committee of Commission 38.

4. In summary, the application should include:

- i. plan of scientific activity,
- ii. curriculum vitae,
- iii. letters of support from home and host institutions,
- iv. information on responsibility for subsistence at the host institution,
- v. information on lowest available travel fare.

and should be submitted in time for the Officers of the Commission to consult by post.

5. All correspondence, including the endorsements referred to above, should be directed to the President of Commission 38, International Astronomical Union, with copy to the Vice-President. For the period August 1994-July 1997, the addresses are:

| President | Vice-President |
|---|--|
| Prof. H.E. Jorgensen University Observatory Oester Volgade 3 DK 1350 Copenhagen K Denmark USA | Dr. Morton S. Roberts NRAO Edgemont Road Charlottesville VA 22903 |

Fax: 45 35 32 3989 1 804 296 0278

5.2. COMMISSION 46: TEACHING OF ASTRONOMY

5.2.1. 22nd International School for Young Astronomers, Brazil

The 22nd IAU International School for Young Astronomers will be held July 9 to July 29 at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Astronomical Observatory (Dpt of Physics-ICEX), Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

e-mail address: isyabr@fisica.ufmg.br

5.2.2. Teaching for Astronomy Development (TAD)

The IAU wishes to support institutions in countries that now have very little astronomy and who wish to expand their astronomy activities significantly. In the past, this goal has been expressed through the Visiting Lecturers Project (VLP), which operated in Peru and Paraguay.

The revised program aims at a small number of additional countries. The IAU would support primarily the cost of travel needed for this program: travel for visiting lecturers giving regularly scheduled course, possibly integrated into a university department of related sciences; travel by select advanced students to work in another country; and travel that establishes and advances international collaborations with the host institution. The sponsoring institution would be responsible for other costs such as the lecturer's living costs and for establishing a plan through which astronomy could be maintained after the TAD program ends.

Astronomers are urged to bring the existence and opportunities offered by TAD to the attention of their colleagues in astronomically developing countries. Informal expressions of interest and requests for more information and correspondence should be sent to Dr. Donat G. Wentzel, Dpt of Astronomy, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742, USA, e-mail: wentzel@astro.umd.edu (Internet), fax: 1 301 314 9067. Formal applications will probably be due in December 1995. Decisions will be made by a committee to be chaired by Dr. Derek McNally, University of London Observatory.

5.3 SPECIAL MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF THE 1995 SOLAR ECLIPSE IN VIETNAM

A national Seminar on Astrophysics and solar eclipse will be held in Ho Chi Minh City on October 22-23, 1995. The seminar will have 150 participants and a limited number of foreign scientists (by invitation only). It is organized by the Ministry of Sciences, Technology and Environment of Vietnam with support from the International Astronomical Union (WG for the World Wide Development of Astronomy), the Paris Observatory, Pierre and Marie Curie University, and the National Centre of Scientific Research of France.

Contact address:

Mr. Le Ngoc Khue, Department of R & D
Ministry of Sciences, Technology and Environment
39 Tran Hung Dao, Hanoi, Vietnam
Fax: 84 42 52733

5.4. FUTURE IAU SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

5.4.1. Deadline

Proposals for IAU Symposia, Colloquia, Regional Meetings, and co-sponsored meetings planned for 1997 should reach the Assistant General Secretary (see address on inside cover page)

no later than April 15, 1996

in order to be considered at the 1996 Executive Committee meeting. Proposals should be complete, with all supporting documents, at that time (cf. the Rules for IAU Scientific Meetings).

5.4.2. Future IAU Symposia

Symposium 172 DYNAMICS, EPHEMERIDES AND ASTROMETRY IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM
July 3 - 8, 1995, Paris, France.

See IB 74, p. 52.

Symposium 173 GRAVITATIONAL LENSING
July 9 - 14, 1995, Melbourne, Australia.

See IB 74, p. 52.

Symposium 174 DYNAMICAL EVOLUTION OF STAR CLUSTERS -
CONFRONTATION OF THEORY AND OBSERVATIONS
August 22 - 25, 1995, Tokyo, Japan.

See IB 74, p. 53.

Symposium 175 EXTRAGALACTIC RADIO SOURCES
October 10 - 14, 1995, Bologna, Italy.

See IB 74, p. 53.

Symposium 176 STELLAR SURFACE STRUCTURE
October 3 - 13, 1995, Vienna, Austria.

See IB 74, p. 54.

Symposium 177 THE CARBON STAR PHENOMENON
May 27 - 31, 1996, Antalya, Turkey.

See IB 74, p. 54.

5.4.3. Future IAU Colloquia

Colloquium 150 PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, AND DYNAMICS OF INTERPLANETARY
DUST
August 14 5 - 30, 1995, Keele, UK.

See IB 72, p. 9.

Colloquium 160 PULSARS: PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS
January 8 - 12, 1996, Sydney, Australia.

See IB 74, p. 57.

With our apologies please note the correct title of Colloquium 159 which should
read as "EMISSION LINES IN ACTIVE GALAXIES: NEW METHODS AND
TECHNIQUES"
June 17 - 20, 1996, Shanghai, China PR.

See IB 74, p. 58.

5.4.4. Future Regional Astronomy Meeting

VIII LATIN-AMERICAN REGIONAL ASTRONOMY MEETING
November 27 - December 1, 1995, Montevideo, Uruguay.

See IB 73, p. 18-19, and IB 74, p.58.

6. OTHER SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO IAU MEMBERS

6.1. WORKSHOP HONOURING JORGE SAHADE

There will be a special workshop celebrating the 80th birthday of Professor Jorge
Sahade, the IAU President 1985 - 1988. The topic of this workshop will be:

COLLIDING WINDS IN BINARY STARS

November 21-24, 1995, La Plata, Argentina.

Contact address: V. Niemela, Observatorio Astronomico, Paseo del Bosque,
1900 La Plata (Bs. As.), Argentina.

Fax: 54 21 21 1761

E-mail: virpi@fcaglp.edu.ar

6.2. OTHER MEETINGS (IN ORDER OF DATE)

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY & GEOPHYSICS XXIST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

July 2 - 14, 1995, Boulder, CO, USA.

Contact address: IUGG XXIst General Assembly, c/o American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Ave, NW, Washington DC 20009, USA.

Fax: 1 202 328 0566

E-mail: IUGG_xxiga@kosmos.agu.org

RADIO EMISSION FROM THE STARS AND THE SUN

July 3 - 7, 1995, Barcelona, Spain.

Contact address: Dr. J.M. Paredes, Dpt d'Astronomia i Meteorologia, Universitat de Barcelona, av. Diagonal 647, E 08028 Barcelona, Spain.

Tel: 34 3 402 1130

Fax: 34 3 402 1133

E-mail: radio@mizar.am.ub.es

THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN MASSIVE STAR FORMATION, THE ISM & GALAXY EVOLUTION

July 3 - 8, 1995, Paris, France.

Contact address: D. Kunth, Institut d'Astrophysique, 98bis bd Arago, F 75014 Paris, France.

Tel: 33 1 44 32 8085

Fax: 33 1 44 32 8001

E-mail: 17649::kunth/kunth@iap.fr

OBSERVATIONAL COSMOLOGY: FROM GALAXIES TO GALAXY SYSTEMS

July 4 - 7, 1995, Bolzano, Italy.

Contact address: Organising Secretariat, The Office, via S. Nicolo 14, I 34121 Trieste, Italy.

Tel: 39 40 36 8343

Fax: 39 40 36 8808

Vienna International Workshop on MODEL ATMOSPHERES AND SPECTRUM SYNTHESIS FOR MID B THROUGH MID G STARS AT OR CLOSE TO THE MAIN SEQUENCE

July 6 - 11, 1995, Vienna, Austria.

Contact address: W.W. Weiss, Institute of Astronomy, University of Vienna, Türkenschanzstrasse 17, A 1180 Wien, Austria.

Tel.: 43 1 47 06 8007/06 6837

Fax: 43 1 47 06 80015

ESO/MPA Workshop: SPIRAL GALAXIES IN THE NEAR IR

July 7 - 9, 1995, Garching bei München, Germany.

Contact address: D. Minniti, European Southern Observatory, Karl-Schwarzschild-Strasse 2, D 85748 Garching bei München, Germany.

Tel: 49 89 320 06 0

Fax: 49 89 320 06 480

E-mail: dante@eso.org

EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES IN BINARY STARS (NATO ASI)

July 10 - 21, 1995, Cambridge, UK.

Contact address: J. Pringle, Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge, CB3 0HA, U.K.

Tel: 44 1223 337548

Fax: 44 1223 337523

E-mail: bin95@mail.ast.cam.ac.uk

CHAOS IN GRAVITATIONAL N-BODY SYSTEMS

July 31 - August 3, 1995, La Plata, Argentina.

Contact address: Prof. J.C. Muzzio, Observatorio Astronomico, Paseo del Bosque, 1900 La Plata (Bs. As), Argentina.

Fax: 54 21 21 1761/21 25 8985

E-mail: jcmuzzio@fcaglp.edu.ar

STELLAR X-RAY ASTRONOMY ACROSS THE HR DIAGRAM

July 31 - August 5, 1995, Würzburg, Germany.

Contact address: H.W. Yorke, Astronomisches Institute, am Hubland, D 97074 Würzburg, Germany.

Tel: 49 931 888 5031

Fax: 49 931 888 4603

E-mail: yorke@astro.uni-wuerzburg.de

36th Herstmonceux Conference on GRAVITATIONAL DYNAMICS

August 7 - 11, 1995, Cambridge, UK.

Contact address: O. Lahav, Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Rd, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK.

Tel: 44 223 337548

Fax: 44 223 337523

E-mail: lahav@mail.ast.cam.ac.uk

STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION OF STELLAR SYSTEMS

August 13 - 17, 1995, Petrozavodsk, Karelia, Russia.

Contact address: Dr. V.V. Orlov, Astronomical Institute, St. Petersburg University, Bibliotechnaya pl. 2, SU 198904 St. Petersburg Peterhof, Russia.

Tel: 7 812 428 4163

Fax: 7 812 428 6649

E-mail: vor@aispbu.spb.su

PHOTOMETRIC SYSTEMS & STANDARD STARS

August 14 - 18, 1995, Moletai, Lithuania.

Contact address: V. Straizys, Institute of Theoretical Physics & Astronomy, Gostauto 12, Vilnius 2600, Lithuania.

Tel: 370 2 613 440

Fax: 370 2 224 694

E-mail: straiizys@itpa.ernet.lt or straiizys@itpa.fi.lt

HYDROGEN-DEFICIENT STARS

August 28 - September 1, 1995, Bamberg, Germany.

Contact addresses: C.S. Jeffery, School of Physics & Astronomy, St Andrews University, St Andrews, FIFE KY16 9SS, Scotland.

E-mail: csj@st-and.ac.uk

or

U. Heber, Dr. Remeis-Sternwarte, Sternwartestrasse 7, D 96049 Bamberg, Germany.

E-mail: heber@sternwarte.uni-erlangen.d400.de

Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope 25th Anniversary Workshop: COLD GAS AT HIGH REDSHIFT

August 28 - 30, 1995, Dwingeloo, The Netherlands.

Contact address: M. Bremer, Sterrenwacht Leiden, Postbus 9513, NL 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands.

Tel: 31 71 275 852

Fax: 31 71 275 819

E-mail: coldgas@strw.leidenuniv.nl

ESO WORKSHOP ON: THE ROLE OF DUST IN THE FORMATION OF STARS

September 11 - 14, 1995, Garching, München, Germany.

Contact address: H.U. Kaeufl, ESO, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D 85748 Garching bei München, Germany

Tel: 49 89 32006 414

Fax: 49 89 32006 480

E-mail: hukaufl@eso.org

First GAIM (IGPB) Science Conference on GLOBAL ANALYSIS,
 INTERPRETATION AND MODELLING
 September 24 - 29, 1995, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.
 Contact addresses: IGBP Secretariat, Institute für Meteorologie, Freie
 Universität Berlin, Carl-Heinrich-Becker-Weg 6-10, D 12165 Berlin,
 Germany

or

Prof. Dr. B. Moore III or Dr. D. Sahagian, Institute for the Study of Earth,
 Oceans and Space, University of New Hampshire, Morse Hall, 39 College
 Road, Durham, NH 03824 3525, USA
 Tel: 1 603 862 1766
 Fax: 1 603 862 1915
 E-mail: gaim@unh.edu

Joint European & National Astronomy Meeting PROGRESS IN EUROPEAN
 ASTROPHYSICS: FACILITIES, NEW INSTRUMENTS & TECHNOLOGIES, SCIENCE
 CHALLENGES
 September 25 - 29, 1995, Catania, Italy.
 Contact address: JENAM-95, c/o Osservatorio Astrofisico, Viale Andrea
 Doria 6, Catania, Italy.
 Tel: 39 95 7332 247
 Fax: 39 95 3305 592
 E-mail: jenam@astrct.ct.astro.it/39003::jenam

International Symposium and Exhibition GPS TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS
 September 26 - 29, 1995, Bucharest, Romania.
 Contact address: Uniunea Geodezilor din Romania, B-dul Expozitiei nr. 1A
 Sect 1, 79662 Bucharest, Romania.
 Tel: 40 161 44240/312
 Fax: 40 131 10378

International workshop on INTERMARSNET
 September 28 - 30, 1995, Capri, Italy.
 Contact addresses: A.F. Chicarro, Space Science Department,
 ESA/ESTEC/Code SO, Keplerlaan 1, NL 2201 AZ Noordwijk, The
 Netherlands
 Tel: 31 1719 83613
 Fax: 31 1719 84697
 E-mail: achicarr@estcs1.estec.esa.nl

or

D.J. McCleese, Earth and Sciences Division, NASA/JPL/Stop 183-335, 4800
 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109, USA.
 Tel: 1 818 354 2317
 Fax: 1 818 393 6546
 E-mail: djmcc@scn1.jpl.nasa.gov

9th Cambridge Workshop COOL STARS, STELLAR SYSTEMS AND THE SUN
 October 3 - 6, 1995, Florence, Italy.
 Contact address: Dr. R. Pallavicini, Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri,
 Largo E. Fermi 5, I 50125 Firenze, Italy.
 Tel: 39 55 275 2252
 Fax: 39 55 220 039
 E-mail: pallavic@arcetri.astro.it

Fourth Teton Conference: INTERSTELLAR PROCESSES II
 October 8 - 13, 1995, Grand Teton National Park, WY, USA.
 Contact information:
 Tel: 1 307 766 6150
 Fax: 1 307 766 2652
 E-mail: physeh@uwyo.edu

FORMATION OF THE GALACTIC HALO: INSIDE AND OUT

October 9 - 11, 1995, Tucson, AZ, USA.

Contact address: R. Zinn, Astronomy Dpt, Yale University, Box 6666, New Haven, CT 06511, USA

Tel: 1 203 432 3000

Fax: 1 203 432 5048

E-mail: zinn@astro.yale.edu

6TH ANNUAL OCTOBER CONFERENCE IN MARYLAND

October 9 - 11, 1995, College Park, MD, USA.

Contact address: Dpt of Astronomy, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, USA.

Tel: 1 301 405 1510

Fax: 1 301 314 9067

E-mail: october@astro.umd.edu

SECONDES RENCONTRES DU VIETNAM

October 21 - 28, 1995, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Contact address: Université de Paris Sud,

Fax: 33 1 69 28 8659

5TH ASTRONOMICAL DATA ANALYSIS SOFTWARE AND SYSTEMS CONFERENCE

October 22 - 25, 1995, Tucson, AZ, USA.

Contact address: J.V. Barnes, National Optical Astronomy Obs., PO Box 26732, Tucson, AZ 85726-6732, USA.

Tel: 1 602 327 5511

Fax: 1 602 325 9360

E-mail: jbarnes@noao.edu

Third Huntsville Symposium: GAMMA-RAY BURSTS

October 25 - 27, 1995, Huntsville, AL, USA.

Contact address: Susan Benefield, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL 35812, USA.

Tel: 1 205 544 2121

E-mail: workshop@batse.msfc.nasa.gov

Third Pacific Rim Conference: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BINARY STAR RESEARCH

October 26 - November 1, 1995, Lopburi, Thailand.

Contact address: K.-C. Leung, Dpt of Physics & Astronomy, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588, USA.

Tel: 1 402 472 2625

Fax: 1 402 472 2879

E-mail: kleung@unlinfo.unl.edu or boonraks@cmu.chiangmai.ac.th

VII Canary Islands Winter School INSTRUMENTATION FOR LARGE TELESCOPES: A COURSE FOR ASTRONOMERS

December 4 - 15, 1995, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.

Contact address: Ms Lourdes Gonzalez, Secretary to the VII Winter School, Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias, 38200 La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.

Fax: 34 22 605 210

E-mail: lgp@iac.es

An ESO-IRAM-Onsala Workshop on SCIENCE WITH LARGE MILLIMETRE ARRAYS

December 11 - 13, 1995, Garching bei München, Germany.

Contact address: P. Shaver, ESO, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D 85748 Garching bei München, Germany.

Tel: 49 89 3200 6233

Fax: 49 89 3200 6480

E-mail: pshaver@eso.org

NEW EXTRAGALACTIC PERSPECTIVES IN THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

January 22 - 26, 1996, Wits, South Africa.

Contact address: Prof. D.L. Block, Dpt Computational & Applied Mathematics, Witwatersrand University, Box 60, Wits, South Africa.

Tel: 27 11 716 3761
 Fax: 27 11 339 7965

ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING IN THE SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

February 20 - 23, 1996, Paris, France.

Contact address: ICSU Press, 51 Blvd de Montmorency, 75016 Paris, France.

Tel: 33 1 45 25 0329
 Fax: 33 1 42 88 9431
 E-mail: iscu@paris7.jussieu.fr

XVIIth International Conference on NEUTRINO PHYSICS AND ASTROPHYSICS

June 13 - 20, 1996, Helsinki, Finland.

Contact address: M. Roos, Dpt of Physics, P.O. Box 9, FIN 00014, University of Helsinki, Finland.

Tel: 358 0 191 8440
 Fax: 358 0 191 8366
 E-mail: neutri96@phcu.helsinki.fi

STELLAR ECOLOGY

June 23 - 29, 1996, Marciana Marina, Elba, Italy.

Contact addresses: R.T. Rood, Dpt of Astronomy, University of Virginia, P.O. Box 3818, Charlottesville, VA 22903, USA

Tel: 1 808 924 4904
 Fax: 1 808 924 3104
 E-mail: rtr@ninkasi.astro.virginia.edu

or

A. Renzini, Dpt di Astronomia, via Zamboni 33, I 40126 Bologna, Italy

Tel: 39 51 259 402
 Fax: 39 51 259 407
 E-mail: alvio@astbo3.bo.astro.it

DARK AND VISIBLE MATTER IN GALAXIES AND COSMOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

June 25 - 28, 1996, Sesto Pusteria, Bolzano, Italy.

Contact address: Massimo Persic & Paolo Salucci, SISSA, via Beirut 4, I 34013 Trieste, Italy.

Tel: 39 40 378 7520
 Fax: 39 40 378 7528
 E-mail: 38028::persic/salucci@galileo.sissa.it

ASTRONOMY EDUCATION

July 08 - 12, 1996, ULO/Open University, London/Milton Keynes, UK.

Contact address: D. McNally, University of London Observatory, Mill Hill Park, London, NW7 2QS, UK.

Tel: 44 181 959 0421
 Fax: 44 181 819 4151
 E-mail: dmn@starlink.ucl.ac.uk

ASTEROIDS, COMETS, METEORS

July 08 - 12, 1996, Versailles, France.

Contact address: ACM, Aéronomie CNRS, BP 3, F 91371 Verrières, France.

Tel: 33 1 64 47 4293
 Fax: 33 1 69 20 2999
 E-mail: aclr@aerov.jussieu.fr

XXVth General Assembly of THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF RADIO SCIENCE (URSI)

August 28 - September 5, 1996, Lille, France.

Contact address: AG URSI Secretariat Pr. P. Degauque, Université de Lille 1, F 59655 villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France.

Tel: 33 2033 7206
 Fax: 33 2033 7207

E-mail: agursi@univ-lille1.fr

HERBIG-HARO FLOWS AND THE BIRTH OF LOW MASS STARS

September 1996, Grenoble, France.

Contact addresses: C. Bertout, Observatoire de Grenoble, BP 53,
F 38041 Grenoble, France.

Tel: 33 76 51 4790

Fax: 33 76 44 8821

E-mail: bertout@gag.observ-gr.fr

or

B. Reipurth, ESO, Casilla 19001, Santiago 19, Chile.

Tel: 56 2 228 5006

Fax: 56 2 228 5132

E-mail: reipurth@eso.org

Third Conference on FAINT BLUE STARS

October 14 - 17, 1996, Schenectady, NY, USA.

Contact address: A.G. Davis Philip, 1125 Oxford Place, Schenectady, NY
12308, USA.

Tel: 1 518 374 5636

Fax: 1 518 346 5781

E-mail: agdp@gar.union.edu

ASYMPTOTIC GIANT STARS

August 20 - 23, 1996, Montpellier, France.

Contact address: C. Waelkens, Instituut voor Sterrenkunde, Celestijnenlaan
200B, B 3001 Leuven, Belgium.

Tel: 32 16 20 0656

Fax: 32 16 20 1241

E-mail: fgafa01@ccl.kuleuven.ac.be

7. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS: Addendum to the List
of IAU Representatives to ICSU and other International
Institutions

See IB 74 p. 65 for further information.

FAGS (Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Services):

P. Pâquet and E. Tandberg-Hanssen

8. IAU PUBLICATIONS

Special offer from Kluwer Academic Publishers to IAU Members on IAU
publications: Members of the IAU receive a discount of 33 1/3% off the price of
the hardbound Symposia and Highlights volumes. They may purchase paperback
copies of Symposium proceedings at NLG 60.00 per copy and paperback copies
of the Highlights at NLG 90.00 per copy. The Transactions may be purchased at
NLG 100.00 per copy.

8.1. IAU SYMPOSIA (KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS)

163 WOLF-RAYET STARS: BINARIES, COLLIDING WINDS, EVOLUTION
Eds. K.A. van der Hucht & P.M. Williams
Hardbound USD 176.00 GBP 115.50 0-7923-3183-4

8.2. IAU COLLOQUIA

Cambridge University Press

143 Invited papers: THE SUN AS A VARIABLE STAR: SOLAR & STELLAR
IRRADIANCE VARIATIONS

Eds. J.M. Pap, C. Fröhlich, H.S. Hudson & K. Solanki
Hardbound USD 59.95 GBP 40.00 0-521-42006-7

Kluwer Academic Publishers

Contributed papers: THE SUN AS A VARIABLE STAR: SOLAR &
STELLAR IRRADIANCE VARIATIONS

Eds. J.M. Pap, C. Fröhlich, H.S. Hudson & W.L. Tobiska
Hardbound 0-7923-3040-4

9. MEMBERSHIP

Our office has been informed that Drs. P.E. Argyle, O.I. Belkovich, Yu.V. Edokimov, Edward J Groth, G.M. Petrov, Th. Roudier, and V.V. Sobolev, who had been included in the list of deceased members published in Information Bulletin 74, are in fact alive and well. We wish to apologise for this very regrettable mistake in IB74. At the same time we note that we are very pleased indeed that we were wrong and that we can continue counting these colleagues among the members of our Union.

In order to avoid such mistakes in future IBs information on individual members received by our office will henceforth be included in the Information Bulletin only after we receive a written confirmation from the corresponding National Committee for the IAU.

10. OTHER MATTERS

10.1. INTERNATIONAL PRIZES OF THE "FONDATION DU 150EME
ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA SOCIETE ROYALE DES SCIENCES DE LIEGE"
(BELGIUM)

Four prizes of 75000 Belgium Francs each (about 3000 CHF) will be allocated for the third five-year period to researchers younger than 35 on December 31, 1995.

These international prizes will reward individual or collaborative works of young scientists in the fields of biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.

The latter field obviously includes astronomy and astrophysics and constitutes the theme of the P. Swings prize.

The information on how to apply may be obtained from:

Prof. G. Hamoir
c/o Secretariat of "Société Royale des Sciences de Liège"
Institute of Mathematics
15, avenue des Tilleuls
B 4000 Liège, Belgium

The deadline for the submission of the applications is October 1, 1995.

10.2. INSTITUTO ISAAC NEWTON BRANCH IN MOSCOW

The IAU Office has been informed of the existence of a branch institute in Moscow of the Instituto Isaac Newton, Santiago de Chile. This branch has been opened in June 1992 following a formal agreement between the Instituto Isaac Newton (Santiago), the Institute of Astronomy of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the Sternberg Astronomical Institute in Moscow. The objective of this agreement is the support of co-operative scientific work in the fields of stellar clusters and Magellanic Cloud research.

Page last modified by the [IAU Secretariat](#) on 2001-01-26.

Our analysis is based on information from SSA's Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin, 2013 and Modeling Income in the Near Term, Version 6. MINT6 is a microsimulation projection model based on the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). The survey information from SIPP respondents is matched with SSA administrative records on earnings and benefits through 2009, and then the earnings, benefits, and other life events of those respondents are projected for 2010 and later years. The MINT6 results shown here are projections for 2015. Projections are restricted to workers with covered earnings. Social Security Bulletin, Vol. 75, No. 3, 2015. 23. PIA if he or she claims after reaching the FRA. INFORMATION BULLETIN. Introduction and Scheme of Examination. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India (GOI) has established National Testing Agency (NTA) as an independent autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization under Society Registration Act 1860 for conducting efficient, transparent and international standards tests in order to assess the competency of candidates for admissions to premier higher education institutions. For appearing in the JEE (Main) examination there is no age limit for the candidates. The candidates who have passed class 12th / equivalent examination in 2018, 2019 or appearing in 2020 irrespective of their age can appear in JEE (Main) examination in 2020.