

COMMISSION 7: CELESTIAL MECHANICS

MECHANIQUE CELESTE

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1. Deceased members

The list of three deceased members of Commission 7, P. Bretagnon, N.P. Groushinsky and J.W. Siry, was announced and a one minute silence was kept to their memory.

2. New members

The list of new members of IAU, that have asked to be members of Commission 7, was announced. There were 24 applications, and after some discussion it was decided to accept all of them.

The new members are:

Celletti Alessandra, Christou Apostolos, Dong Xiao Jun, Gusev Alexander, Haghhighipour Nader, Hamilton Douglas, Hilton James, Hurley Jarrod, Ipatov Sergei, Ito Takashi, Ji Jianghui, Kokubo Eiichiro, Lega Elena, Moreira Morais, Pilat-Lohinger, Roig Fernando, Sheeres Daniel, Shevchenko Ivan, Sweatman Winston, Tao Jin-He, Vieira Neto, Vinet Jean-Yves, Yano Taihey, Zhao You.

3. Report on CM&DA

The report of the Editor-in-Chief of CM&DA, Dr. Sylvio Ferraz-Mello was announced and all expressed their appreciation for the good work that has been done so far. It was decided to send to him a letter expressing the appreciation of Commission 7 for his work for the journal.

The complete report is the following: Prof. Sylvio Ferraz-Mello is the editor-in-chief since Jan. 1st, 2002. The most important facts of the journal in the last 3-years are: 1) The journal is published according with the schedule since more than one year. Subscribers of the electronic version are getting the issues the month before the schedule (The issue corresponding to August can be accessed since past week); 2) Since the end of 2002, the editorial tasks are done with full use of the world web including the submission of the papers and the delivery of page proofs. You know well how the Editorial Manager works and can explain it to the audience; 3) We expect that the refereeing procedures of the papers be completed faster when every Associate Editors start acting promptly when informed by the system that a new decision is expected from him. (Some Editors are still showing a refractory behavior with respect to the EM.) However, given the mathematical nature of the papers submitted to our journal, we

cannot expect to have refereeing times as short as in journals where most of the papers are of phenomenological nature. 4) Kluwer agreed that more than 5-yr old issues can be incorporated in the NASA-ADS bibliographical basis for free access. There are practical difficulties - NASA-ADS needs copies of the journals to scan (in this operation the issues are destroyed) and it is difficult to find spare copies of old issues for that sake. 5) The impact factor of the journal recorded by the Institute of Science Information was 0.695 in the 2001 edition of the Journal Citation Report and 0.5 in the 2002 edition.

It was mentioned that one thing that we can do to improve the journal is to attract more papers, in fact more good papers.

4. Secretary

Concerning the secretary of Commission 7 for the period 2003-2006, it was stated that the decision is of the president.

5. IAU Colloquium

Finally, concerning the colloquium that Prof. Milani and Dr. Zoran Knezevic have proposed, we expressed our thanks to the IAU for the positive decision.

John D. Hadjidemetriou
President of the Commission