

COMMISSION 22: METEORS, METEORITES AND INTERPLANETARY DUST

(METEORES, METEORITES ET POUSSIERE INTERPLANETAIRE)

PRESIDENT: V. Porubčan
VICE-PRESIDENT: I. Mann
SECRETARY: W.J. Baggaley

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: D. Asher, J. Borovička, M. Grady, R.L. Hawkes, P. Jenniskens, P. Spurný, D.I. Steel, J. Watanabe, I.P. Williams, H. Yano

1. IAU GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSION 22 BUSINESS MEETING - MINUTES. July 16 2003, the Sydney Convention Centre (room PM1).

Present:

Porubčan (President - Chair), Mann (Vice President), Baggaley (Secretary), A'Hearn, Asher, Dravins (non-member of C22), Isobe, Jenniskens, Spurny, Valsecchi, Watanabe, Williams, two non-signing (non C22) observers.

Apologies received from Grady, Hawkes, and Steel.

The meeting stood in silence in remembrance of deceased C22 members - Margita Kresáková, John A. O'Keefe, John A. Russell

President's Report:

Work had been put into securing a JD for Sydney on Leonid Storms but not succeeded. A highlight of the three years was the securing of more meteorite orbits and the (rare) finding of a meteorite as a result of spaced camera trajectory network (as reported by Spurny at the ACM Berlin meeting July 2002). A successful conference Meteoroids 2001 was hosted by the Swedish Institute of Space Physics with the LOC chaired by Pellinen-Wannberg producing a fine event in Kiruna. There were some 110 participants and the Proceedings appeared as a European Space Agency Special Report SP-495.

The President thanked all those who contributed to the Commission Report and the secretary for the editing work. In discussion Baggaley noted the loss of some material because of the restricted page numbers: A'Hearn reported that C15 had solved that compression problem by omitting the reference list and displaying that instead on their commission webpage - therefore allowing 3 extra pages of text.

C22 Professional-Amateur Working Group:

Jenniskens spoke to his report describing the heavy commitment of members in many campaigns recording the annual Leonid Storms each November and noted the important role of amateurs in meteor astronomy and their strong activity. The WG was contributing to commission work, was very active and should continue.

Election of new members:

None had come from within the IAU (i.e. already members of other commissions). The following new members to IAU and to C22 had been proposed: Peter Brown (University of Western Ontario, Canada), Asta Pellinen-Wannberg (Swedish Institute of Space Physics, Galina Ryabova (Tomsk University, Russia), Alan Webster (University of Western Ontario, Canada). Their acceptance was proposed and accepted with acclamation by the meeting.

Consultants:

The meeting recognised the role of consultants in supplying expertise in fields related to astronomy but who were not in a position to join the IAU under their National Astronomy Committee rules. The composition was discussed and the following 14 were confirmed made up of 6 "professionals" and 9 "amateurs" Hans Betlem, John Mathews, Edward Murad, Yuri Obrubov, Jurgen Rendtel, Yuri Voloshchuk, Shinsuke Abe, Olivier Witasse, Chris Trayner, Gilberto Klar-Renner, Tim Cooper, Miroshi Ogawa, Bob Lunsford, Niel Bone.

Election of Executive:

The President, noted the strong support from the Exec and SOC and proposed that Ingrid Mann our present VP be the next President. He gave supporting statement noting Ingrid's strong interest in the "interplanetary dust" part of the commission's responsibility as well as her recent work on interstellar dust. Ingrid's election was carried with acclamation.

The President spoke of the important work done by Pavel Spurny in the European Fireball network and the strong role over decades of the Czech community in meteors - noted the strong support of the Exec and SOC proposed Pavel as our next VP. The proposal was carried with acclamation.

Scientific Organising Committee:

The President noted that the Commission's responsibilities covered a wide field: the physical objects studied ranged from interstellar grains, interplanetary particles, meteor train debris and fallen meteorites while very diverse techniques were used for their study. Noting the IAU Exec guidelines on numbers and their recommendation to rotate members within the constrictions of expertise, discussion converged on the following SOC: Mann (President), Spurny (Vice President), Asher, Baggaley, Borovička, Grady, Jenniskens, Porubčan, Steel, Williams, Watanabe, Yano.

Election of WG PAWG Committee:

Jenniskens, the becoming chair of C22 Pro-am Working Group proposed the following committee of the WG: Peter Jenniskens (Chair), Ingrid Mann, Shinsuke Abe, Jin Zhu, Olivier Witasse, Chris Trayner, Hans betlem, Gilberto Klar-Renner, Tim Cooper, Hiroshi Ogawa, Bob Lunsford, Niel Bone. The proposal was carried with acclamation.

Any other business:

Mike A'Hearn summarised the moves by the executive to change the structure of the IAU: The exec saw a need to deal with fewer entities; Div 3 had a large spread of topics; The idea is that Divisions will re-appoint its commissions each three years: this would allow the introduction of new topics as the research areas of astronomy changes; One approach is to combine commissions dealing with different aspects of a physical object - e.g. Commission 15 (physical studies) and Commission 20 (dynamics); Commission 34 Interstellar Matter deals with particulate material which also comes under C22 responsibilities.

An accurate C22 Membership List was supplied for the meeting by the IAU Exec. Including the new members elected at this meeting and the new consultants the total is: 119 being 105 members and 14 consultants.

The President thanked the SOC and Peter Jenniskens, chair of the Pro-Am WG for their work. Baggaley gave a vote of thanks to the outgoing President for his guidance over the three years.

The meeting closed at 10.29.

After the meeting Peter Jenniskens gave a presentation about the airborne recording of the Leonid Storm.

V. Porubčan
President of the Commission