

PREFACE

The first ideas for the symposium were generated in Brussels in the summer of 1986, during exquisite lunches in between HST proposal consortium meetings. At the time it was expected that soon after the previous IAU symposium (No. 116) devoted to luminous hot massive stars, a bonanza of new exciting observational material would become available, together with significant advances on the theoretical front. Also it was felt that Wolf-Rayet stars should feature predominantly, because that had not been the case since IAU Symposium No. 99 in 1981.

Tradition requires that IAU symposia on hot massive stars take place in high luminosity beach resorts, and after Buenos Aires, Qualicum Beach, Cozumel and Porto Heli, Bali sounded like a reasonable place. Therefore we were only too pleased with the invitation of the Indonesian astronomical community to host the symposium in Sanur (Denpasar).

The aim of the symposium was to bring together both observers and theoreticians active in the field of Wolf-Rayet stars and related objects, to present and discuss their recent results, in order to expose to what extent consensus exists as to the physical and chemical properties of Wolf-Rayet stars, their evolutionary status and their interrelations with other massive stars in galaxies.

A candidate Scientific Organizing Committee was invited in 1987, and following approval by the IAU Executive Committee a year later, quora of the SOC met in 1988 during the IAU General Assembly in Baltimore and during IAU Colloquium No. 113 in Val Morin, and again in 1989 during the First Boulder-Munich Workshop. Those gatherings and extensive email communication subsequently established the programme for the symposium. The basic structure was: Atmospheres, Intrinsic Variability, Binaries, Mass Loss, Enrichment, and Inventory and Distribution; to be preceded by an overview of the relevant literature of the past decade, and to be concluded by a summary of the symposium.

In this framework 20 invited reviews, 38 invited contributions, and 76 poster papers were presented at the symposium, entertaining 118 participants from 18 countries, including some of the finest brains in the solar system. Thanks to the cooperation of the authors, most manuscripts arrived in time and in good shape, thus alleviating the task of the editors. The discussions were recorded in the usual way. Decipherization of discussion forms and transcription of tapes as well of some of the manuscripts have skillfully been performed by Ms. Karin Meertse in Utrecht. The object index has been compiled scrupulously and accurately by Ms. Diah Yudiawati Anggraeni in Lembang.

The Local Organizing Committee made an early start in finding not only a very efficient and pleasant venue, but also in gathering generous support from numerous national and international sources. The symposium was supported and funded by the Directorate General of Higher Education of the Department of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia. The LOC operated under the wings of the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in Bandung (West Java) and of the Universitas Udayana (UNUD) in Denpasar (Bali). A record of appreciation is more than appropriate here. We thank the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), the adhering body to the IAU, for securing the permit to hold the meeting in Indonesia; the Indonesian National Committee for UNESCO (KNI-UNESCO) for its invaluable support which facilitated the organization; and the National Planning Board (Bappenas), whose moral as well as financial support made preparation and execution possible.

The Office of the President (Binagraha) provided means for the preparation as well as for the finishing touch of the symposium, for which we are very grateful. We are happy to recall the most welcome 'intervention' of the Department of Tourism, Post and Telecommunication, in particular Ir. Soedjono Kramadibrata, and of PT Hotel Indonesia, which

made it possible for us to make use of Hotel Bali Beach in Sanur, as the venue for the symposium. We thank them very much for the many facilities which were generously provided to us under the direction of Mr. Alfons D. Viera and the charming and efficient guidance of Ms. Made Pudjayanti, Mr. Nyoman Megeg and Mrs. Suyasih Mudita.

It would be a sin of omission if we did not record here the trust and thrust which have been provided by the International Astronomical Union. Its financial contributions have enabled quite a number of colleagues to attend the symposium. Many astronomers also received support from the International Center for Theoretical Physics (Trieste, Italy) and from the European Space Agency, which also provided the poster announcing the symposium. We owe our indebtedness to those highly respected organizations.

The seed money which catapulted the LOC into motion was provided already in 1988 by the Leids Kerkhoven-Bosscha Fonds (the Netherlands). We greatly appreciate her support. Due regards are directed also to the British Council, the Australian Embassy's Cultural Office, and the Deutsches Akademisches Austausch Dienst, all in Jakarta. Those offices have, upon request of the SOC, helped many astronomers with travel support.

We are greatly indebted to many friends and sympathizers in Indonesia, whose contributions, in one way or another, have made it possible to realize the symposium. The official carrier to the symposium *GARUDA Indonesia* provided a very generous reduction in airfares; the newspaper Kompas helped to support some of our colleagues from abroad, as well as to meet some local expenses. The ITB Alumni Association has provided support for Indonesian astronomers to attend this meeting. Bir Bintang – literally meaning Stellar Beer – provided support for one foreign astronomer.

All participants who enjoyed the special evening events may want to know that those were made possible by generous support from many Indonesian corporations. We would like to record our appreciation to: ASTRA International Corporation for organizing the cultural Evening at the Puri Anyer Kerambitan; the cigarette company PT Jarum Kudus (Central Java) and the PT Perkebunan XIII (West Java) for their contributions in organizing the conference dinner. PT Perkebunan XIII is a tea plantation south of Bandung, whose influence on the development of astronomy in Indonesia has been felt ever since the 1920-ies. Directed by the late Karel A.R. Bosscha, the tea plantation sponsored the founding of the observatory in Lembang – whence the name Bosscha Observatory.

Our special thanks go to the cigarette factory PT Gudang Garam (East Java), which continued to extend its support for international astronomy meetings in Indonesia, as it had done already in two occasions in the past. Financial and other facilities have been kindly provided by PT Bukaka Teknik Utama, PT Unilever Indonesia, PT Tambang Timah Indonesia, PT Electrindo Nusantara, PT Perkebunan XXI-XXII, Kodak-Interdelta and Pudak Scientific. PT Dwitunggal Jaya Sakti contributed a slide projector. We thank them all very much.

The Organizing Committee wishes also to express her thanks to individuals whose encouragement has always been felt: Prof.Ir. Wiranto Arismunandar, Prof.Dr. C. de Jager, Dr.Ir. Arifin Wardiman, Ki Probosutedjo, Dr. Ariono Abdulkadir, Ir. Fadel Mohammed, Mr. Riyanto Gozali, Col. Soelerso, Mr. Ansari, and Miss Maria Natawira of Interlink. In addition, interest and support from the Government of the Bali province and the Department of Foreign Service are gratefully acknowledged.

Last but not least, the Organizing Committee was in her tasks extensively supported by an able army of assistants from Universitas Udayana and Institut Teknologi Bandung, and by her very effective Administrative Officer Ms. Diah Yudiawati Anggraeni, without whom this symposium would not have been the same.

Karel A. van der Hucht & Bambang Hidayat