

# European Astronomical Society

## 13th Council Meeting, Part I

Moscow, May 31, 2000

### Draft Minutes

#### **Attendance:**

##### **A) Council members:**

- Maria Kontizas (Councillor)
- Joachim Krautter (Councillor, acting Secretary)
- Birgitta Nordstroem (Treasurer)
- Boris Shustov (Vice-President)
- Jean-Paul Zahn (President)

##### **B) Designated Council members:**

- Peter Shaver
- Magda Stavinschi

##### **C) Representatives of Affiliated Societies**

- Nikolai Bochkarev (Eurasian Astronomical Society)
- Jan Palous (Czech Astronomical Society)
- John Seiradakis (Hel.A.S.)
- Ivar Shmeld (Latvian Astronomical Society)
- Rainer Spurzem (Astronomische Gesellschaft)
- Ibador Subhon (Tajik Deptm., Eurasian Astronomical Society)
- Tonu Viik (Estonian Astronomical Society)

##### **D) Guests**

- Michel Dennefeld (EAS Webmaster)
- Michael Gavrilov (Euro-AsAS)
- Jean-Pierre Swings (Joint Division EAS/EPS)

The president opened the meeting at 14<sup>h</sup>30<sup>m</sup>

### 1) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted without changes.

### 2) **Adoption of the Minutes from the 12th EAS Council Meeting**

The minutes of the 12th EAS Council Meeting, Toulouse, September 7 1999, were adopted with two minor changes.

### 3) **Report by the President**

The president J.-P. Zahn thanked the organizers of JENAM2000 for the invitation to Moscow and stressed the importance of the JENAM meetings.

### 4) **Report by the Treasurer**

B. Nordstroem presented the *Consolidated Balance Sheet* as well as the *Profit and Loss Account* for the business year 1999 and the projected budget for the year 2001 (see attached sheets). She particularly mentioned that the deficit in 1999 was planned by the Council which had approved additional spending since the fortune was considered to be too large.

B. Nordstroem regretted that only few people had become new EAS members as a result of some special efforts. A possible impact of JENAM meetings on the recruitment of new members was not considered to be very high.

Problems with the payment of the membership fee were discussed. It was the general opinion that everybody should pay and Council should decide on the amount of the membership fee. B. Nordstroem announced stronger measures against those who are late with the payment of their membership fees by two or more years.

### 5) **Report by the Secretary**

Since the secretary M. T. Lago could not attend the Moscow meetings, the designated secretary J. Krautter, who had acted as such already at JENAM99, was acting as secretary during the Moscow JENAM2000 meeting. Due to the unclear situation before the Moscow meetings the agendas for the Council and the Business Meetings were sent out rather late. J Krautter promised to do this much earlier for JENAM2001. He also intends to make the minutes of the Business Meetings easily accessible to all EAS members.

J. Krautter had also taken over to prepare documents for the strategic planning as discussed at the Toulouse meetings in 1999. J. Krautter apologized that due to various circumstances the distribution of the questionnaires was delayed. A first draft of the questionnaire will be ready within the next six weeks. The questionnaire will be sent, as discussed earlier, to all Affiliated Societies or, if there is no Affiliated Society in a certain country, to a representative person.

### 6) **EAS WWW homepage**

The webpage editor M. Dennefeld would like to have more input for the webpage, for instance for the job announcements. M. Dennefeld pointed out that still many (some 150) email addresses from his list were incorrect which results in large numbers of undeliverable emails. In part not only the user-id is wrong but the server doesn't exist any longer.

J. Palous expressed his appreciation and thanks to M. Dennefeld for his excellent work.

## 7) **Newsletter**

I. Subhon thanked M. Kontizas, the newsletter editor, for her excellent work.

M. Kontizas wants a larger involvement of the community, complains somewhat about missing response and asks for new ideas and/or suggestions for changes.

On the suggestion to publish the abstracts of PhD theses in the newsletter, the general opinion was that it would be better to do this on the web pages.

## 8) **EAS Conference Series**

The president J.-P. Zahn presented a proposal to create an EAS Conference Series, similar to that one of the ASP.

## 9) **Representation of EAS in Opticon**

B. Nordstroem participated as a guest at an Opticon Council meeting. The minutes of this meeting are available. EAS has been invited to participate as a permanent guest at the Council meetings.

## 10) **Future Activities**

See TOP 11.

## 11) **Next General and Council meetings**

R. Spurzem renewed the invitation of Astronomische Gesellschaft to hold JENAM2001 together with the annual autumn meeting of AG in September 2001. Prospective dates would be either the 2nd or 3rd week in September 2001. Due to the lack of auditoriums with sufficient capacity it will probably not be possible to hold the meeting in Garching, the place foreseen first. An alternative place would be Munich.

It was suggested to search for an exciting title of the meeting.

For JENAM2002 EAS has not yet received an invitation. The president J.P. Zahn asked the representatives of the Affiliated Societies to think about a possible invitation.

## 12) **Joint Astrophysical Division EAS/EPS**

J.-P. Swings, the secretary of the JAD, reported on recent events and new developments in the JAD. He said that there were efforts towards coordinating activities related to astroparticle physics in Europe. The solar physics section had a very successful conference in Florence. The Board of SPS will offer to organize a session on solar physics at future JENAM meetings. Plans for creating a Gravitational Physics Section are in an advanced stage. GPS wants to hold a workshop in connection with JENAM2001. Links to gravitational wave astrophysics have been established. On the initiative of JAD an ESA-CERN workshop on fundamental physics had taken place successfully. Pending on agreement by the EAS and EPS presidents M. Jacob will replace M. Huber as chairman of the JAD.

The participants welcomed J.-P. Swings's report, particularly that meetings of the JAD should be held in future in connection with EAS.

### 13) **Other Business**

M. Gavrilov presented the *International Astronomy Olympiad* which is organized by the Euro-Asian Astronomical Society under participation of several foreign countries. He asked EAS to extend this to all European nations. The general opinion was that that would be beyond the scope and abilities of EAS. J. Krautter suggested that EAAS should approach the national astronomical societies.

In the course of the discussion on the Astronomical Olympiad B. Shustov suggested to create a special; award for young astronomers.

It was pointed out that EAS will have in autumn 2000 it's 10th anniversary.

N. Bochkarev asked for the moral support of EAS to ask for the continuation of the production of photographic plates at a Russian factory. J.-P. Zahn would be willing to write a supporting letter.

J.-P. Zahn informed the participants that the Society of Astronomers of Serbia (SAS) had informally inquired to join as Affiliated Society.

The president closed the meeting at 16<sup>h</sup>35<sup>m</sup>