

SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE D'ASTRONOMIE ET D'ASTROPHYSIQUE (SF2A)



Didier BARRET
Président 2006-2008

SF2A IN BRIEF

- Founded in 1978, under the impulsion of E. Schatzman
- Previous Presidents:
 - ✓ Raymond Michard (1978), Evry Schatzman (1982), Jean Delhaye (1984), Jean Audouze (1986), Philippe Delache (1988), André Brahic (1990), Jean-Paul Zahn (1992), Catherine Cesarsky (1994), Alain Omont (1996), Sylvie Vauclair (1998), Suzy Collin (2000), Françoise Combes (2002), Fabienne Casoli (2004)
- Independent of national institutions funding astronomy
- Between 450 and 550 members (out of ~900 professional astronomers with permanent position in France)

- Funding only from membership fees (32€ for seniors, 14€ for students)
- Elected council of 12 members for 4 years renewed by half every two years
- Executive board of 5 persons, including a Vice-President for foreign affairs
- No staff
- Representative of the whole French astronomical community
- Provide a tribune to our funding agencies to report on the evolution of the research system in astronomy, to involve the community in elaborating roadmaps, ...

ANNUAL MEETING

- 📌 **The week of the French Astronomical Society**
 - ✓ Up to 450 participants: sponsored event (funding agencies & institutes of astronomy), low fees, financial help provided to young post-docs coming from abroad
 - ✓ All fields of research represented through the active participation of all national programs (cosmology, galaxies, stellar physics, ...)
 - ✓ Electronic publication of the proceedings with ADS reference (since 2004)
 - ✓ Promote young researchers in the scientific program
 - ✓ 2 day plenary sessions (review talks+overview talks) & 3 days of up to 4 parallel workshops whose organization relies on national programs (funded by CNRS)
 - ✓ The SF2A young researcher award ceremony
 - ✓ Meeting with the press around a selected sample of important and timely results
 - ✓ Workshop on astronomy teaching

WHAT SF2A DOES

Not restricted to SF2A members:

- ✓ Maintains the directory of the French Astronomical community : ~1300 entries (large number of students)
- ✓ Distribute and archive weekly messages of general interest to the community (AOs, schools, ...)
- ✓ Collect and redirect EAS fees (about ~150 members)

Restricted to SF2A members:

- ✓ Provide help to write press releases
- ✓ AOs for public outreach activities

WHAT SF2A DOES

- Distributes an award for young researchers (co-sponsored with HP / AMD)
- Co-organizes the Goutelas school
- Distributes financial support for French participation of international conferences
- Promotes whenever possible astronomy in schools and in the media - advertise jobs
- Will play a key role in IYA 2009 - France

✓ <http://www.sf2a.asso.fr/>




La société dite Société Française des Spécialistes d'Astronomie (SFSA), fondée en 1978, renommée en 1999, Société Française d'Astronomie et d'Astrophysique (SF2A), association **loi 1901**, a pour but de contribuer au développement et au rayonnement de l'astronomie en France et d'y associer l'ensemble des professionnels d'astronomie concourant à ce même objectif.

Vous trouverez sur ce site toutes les informations relatives à la vie de la société, ainsi que les derniers Communiqués de presse publiés à la rubrique **Presse**.

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SF2A AND PARTNERS

- 🎤 SF2A acts as the National Committee for Astronomy in IAU, substituting the Academy of Sciences committee
- 🎤 SF2A / French Society of Physics getting even closer
- 🎤 SF2A has no direct formal links with amateur societies (already well organized otherwise)
- 🎤 SF2A intends to develop bilateral links with other European societies
 - ✓ Invited representatives from Germany, Italy and Spain during our past annual meetings and from UK this year
 - ✓ Organize joint events, such as dedicated workshops
- 🎤 Shared concern: most SF2A members do not see the added value of EAS