

SSAA/SSGA

Swiss Society for Astrophysics and Astronomy

Société Suisse d'Astrophysique et d'Astronomie

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Astrophysik und Astronomie

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Who is Who in Swiss Astronomy?

Activities of the society

Activities of the commissions

Links with European / international organizations

‘Who Is Who’ in Swiss astronomy?

Federal Department of home affairs and ‘Canton’ governments

State Secr. for education and research (SER) and Depts for Education

- Federal institutes (**ETHZ, EPFL**), Universities (**GE, BE, BS, ZH**)
- Science foundation & Intern. research programs (**FP7, Astronet...**)
- International research institutions (e.g. **ESO, ESA(IDSC, ISSI ...)**)
- **Academies**
 - Medical sciences, Engineering sciences,
 - **Natural sciences (SC|NAT)**
 - Platform Chemistry, Platform Biology, ...
 - **Platform Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics**
 - Swiss Physical Society, Swiss Mathematical Society, Commissions...
 - **Swiss Society for Astrophysics and Astronomy**
 - Commission for Astronomy
 - Commission for Space Research

Swiss Society for Astrophysics and Astronomy

about 200 members

- professional astronomers (~40%), Ph.D students (~40%), Astronomers who left astronomy, retired astronomers, few amateur astronomers
- Board of 4 persons (HMS, D. Schaerer, W. Schmutz, T. Schildknecht)

main activities:

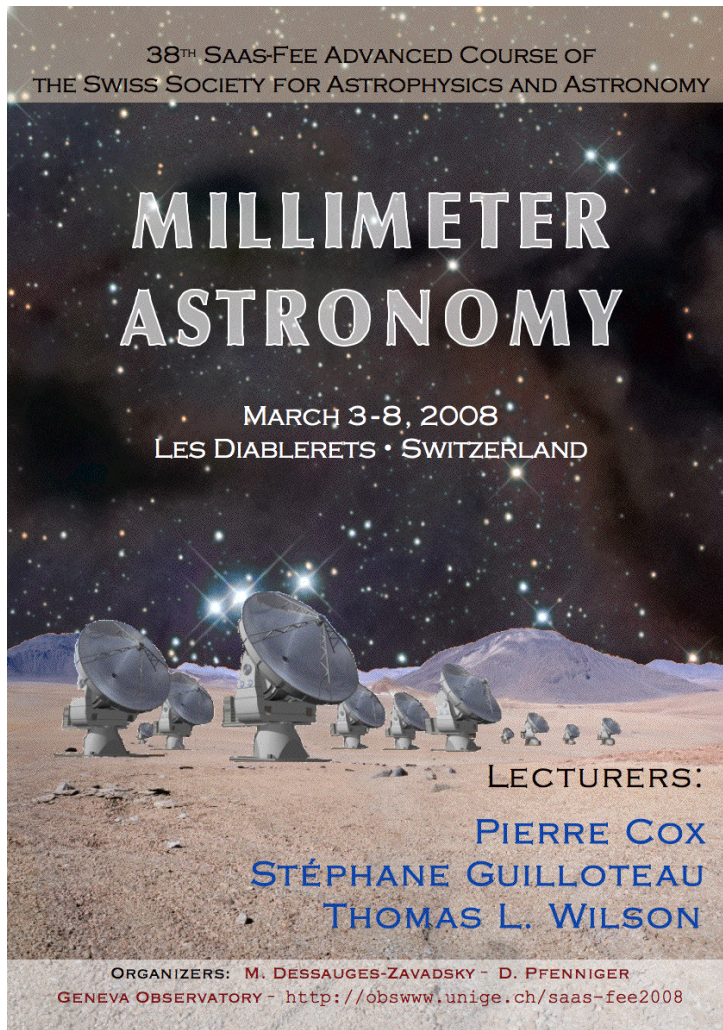
- get money from platform MAP / SC|NAT
- distribute travel grants (10 kE young scientists, intern. collaboration)
- Swiss contribution for Astronomy & Astrophysics (6 kE)
- organize selection and support of Saas Fee course (8 kE) →
- general assembly: 1-day meeting (business meeting and science talks of new professors and Ph.D students)
- participate in outreach events (Einstein year, SC|NAT-events)

membership fees

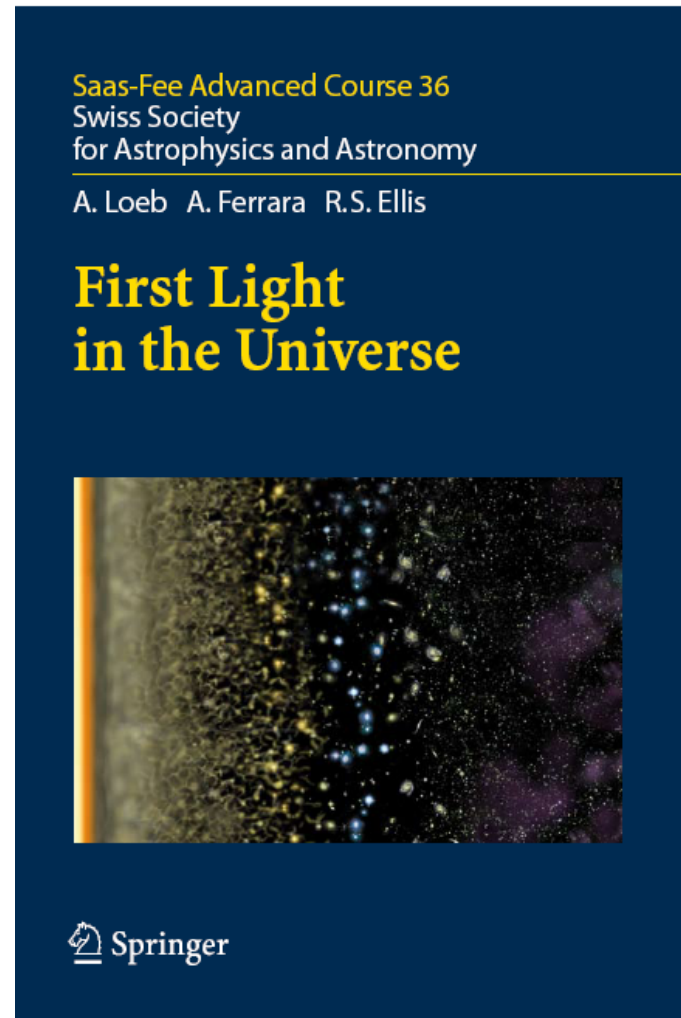
- 20 Euros (persons), 100-200 Euros (institutes)

yearly Saas Fee course (since 38 years)

- Ph.D. students and professional astronomers
- 1 week (Mo-Sa) in winter: 3h lectures, skiing, 2h lectures
- 3 lecturers, pedagogical course of 8-9 lectures each
- own publication series



2008



2006

Commission for Astronomy

about 10 members:

- institute directors / professors (Chair: G. Meylan)
- elected by SC|NAT, proposed by SSAA-board
- observer status: SSAA, SER (M. Steinacher)

main activity

- ``political voice'' of the Swiss astronomers
- Roadmap for Astronomy in Switzerland 2007-2016
- proposes Swiss delegates for ESO committees (Council, STC and UC)
- Plans to set-up a common (Swiss) graduate course in Astrophysics
- Organizes through SC|NAT membership fees for IAU

Commission for Space Research

- Representatives of institutes doing space science (chair: Willy Benz)
- ``political voice'' of scientists (Astronomer, Geoscience, Physics) interested in Space Research

Links with European / international organizations

SSAA

- combined EAS/SSAA membership fees
- SSAA pays A&A contribution
- Contribution to IYA2009 (IAU) secretariat

Commission for Astronomy

- proposes Swiss delegates for ESO
- IAU connection
- Contribution to IYA2009 (IAU) secretariat

Commission for Space Research

- Chair is member of ESA SPC

