

IAU Symposia 2008 Selection

The unconfirmed minutes of the EC telecon held on 22 March record the following concerning the 2008 Symposia proposals. The AGS has informed all proposers of the EC selection.

The EC thanked the Division Presidents for their work and clear recommendation. After discussion of the proposals, and their rank order as submitted by the DPs, the EC decided to adopt the recommendation of the DPs and to select the following proposals as IAU Symposia in 2008:

IAU Symposium No. 251 (Proposal # 1, Coordinating Division VI)
Organic Matter in Space
8-12 March 2008, Hong Kong, China
SOC chair: Sun Kwok < sunkwok@hku.hk >
Setsuko Wada < wada@pc.uec.ac.jp >
LOC chair: Sun Kwok < sunkwok@hku.hk >
Editors Proceedings: Sun Kwok (CE) < sunkwok@hku.hk >
Scott A. Sandford < ssandford@mail.arc.nasa.gov >

IAU Symposium No. 252 (Proposal # 7, Coordinating Division IV)
Art of Modelling Stars in the 21st Century
10-14 March 2008, Sanya, Hainan Island, China
SOC chair: LiCai Deng < licai@boa.ac.cn >
Cesare S. Chiosi < cesare.chiosi@unipad.it >
LOC chair: Yanchun Liang < ycliang@boa.ac.cn >
Editors Proceedings: LiCai Deng (CE) < licai@boa.ac.cn >
Kwing Lam Chan < maklchan@ust.hk >
Cesare S. Chiosi < cesare.chiosi@unipad.it >

IAU Symposium No. 253 (Proposal #3, Coordinating Division III)
Transiting Planets
19-23 May 2008, Boston, MA, USA
SOC chair: Didier Queloz < didier.quelez@obs.unige.ch >
Dimitar D. Sasselov < sasselov@cfa.harvard.edu >
LOC chair: Matthew Holman < mholman@cfa.harvard.edu >
Guillermo Torres < torres@cfa.harvard.edu >
Editors Proceedings: Frederic Pont (CE) < Frederic.Pont@obs.unige.ch >
Didier Queloz < didier.quelez@obs.unige.ch >
Dimitar D. Sasselov < sasselov@cfa.harvard.edu >

IAU Symposium No. 254 (Proposal #17, Coordinating Division VII)
The Galaxy Disk in Cosmological Context
9-13 June 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark
SOC chair: Birgitta Nordstrom < birgitta@astro.ku.dk >
Jonathan Bland-Hawthorn < jbh@aao.gov.au >
LOC chair: Johannes Andersen < ja@astro.ku.dk >
Editors Proceedings: Johannes Andersen (CE) < ja@astro.ku.dk >
Jonathan Bland-Hawthorn < jbh@aao.gov.au >
Birgitta Nordstrom < birgitta@astro.ku.dk >

IAU Symposium No. 255 (Proposal #2, Coordinating Division VIII)

Low-metallicity Star Formation: from the First Stars to Dwarf Galaxies

15-19 June 2008, Villasimius, Sardinia, Italy

SOC chair: Leslie Hunt < hunt@arcetri.astro.it >
Suzanne Madden < madden@cea.fr >
LOC chair: Emanuela Masini < masini@arcetri.astro.it >
Editors Proceedings: Leslie Hunt (CE) < hunt@arcetri.astro.it >
Suzanne Madden < madden@cea.fr >
Raffaella Schneider < raffa@arcetri.astro.it >

IAU Symposium No. 256 (Proposal #9, Coordinating Division VIII)

The Magellanic System: Stars, Gas, and Galaxies

28 July - 1 August 2008, Keele University, Staffordshire, UK

SOC chair: Jacobus Th. van Loon < jacco@astro.keele.ac.uk >
LOC chair: Nye Evans < ae@astro.keele.ac.uk >
Editors Proceedings: Jacobus Th. van Loon (CE) < jacco@astro.keele.ac.uk >
Joana M. Oliveira < Joanna@astro.keele.ac.uk >

IAU Symposium No. 257 (Proposal #15, Coordinating Division II)

Universal Heliophysical Processes

5-9 September 2008, Ionnina, Greece

SOC chair: Natchimuthuk Gopalswamy < gopal@ssedmal.gsfs.nasa.gov >
David F. Webb < david.webb@hanscom.af.mil >
LOC chair: Alexander Nindos < anindos@cc.uoi.gr >
Editors Proceedings: Natchimuthuk Gopalswamy (CE) < gopal@ssedmal.gsfs.nasa.gov >
David F. Webb < david.webb@hanscom.af.mil >

IAU Symposium No. 258 (Proposal #6, Coordinating Division IV)

The Ages of Stars

13-17 October 2008, Baltimore, MD, USA

SOC chair: David R. Soderblom < drs@stsci.edu >
LOC chair: Jeff A. Valenti < valenti@@stsci.edu >
Editors Proceedings: Eric Mamajek (CE) < emamajek@cfa.harvard.edu >
David R. Soderblom < drs@stsci.edu >
Rosemary F. Wyse < wyse@pha.jhu.edu >

IAU Symposium No. 259 (Proposal #13, Coordinating Division II)

Cosmic Magnetic Fields: from Planets, to Stars and Galaxies

3-7 November 2008, Puert Santiago, Tenerife, Spain

SOC chair: Klaus G. Strassmeier < kstrassmeier@aip.de >
John E. Beckman < jeb@iac.es >
Alexander Kosovichev < sacha@quake.stanford.edu >
LOC chair: John E. Beckman < jeb@iac.es >
Alexander Kosovichev < sacha@quake.stanford.edu >
Editors Proceedings: Klaus G. Strassmeier (CE) < kstrassmeier@aip.de >
Alexander Kosovichev < sacha@quake.stanford.edu >
John E. Beckman < jeb@iac.es >

Unsuccessful proposers should be invited by the AGS to consider submitting a revised proposal for 2009.

Proposal for a Middle-East Regional IAU Meeting in 2008 (MERIM 2008)

The proposal for a Middle-East Regional IAU Meeting, 5-9 April 2008, was strongly supported and met with general approval.

It was agreed that the President Catherine Cesarsky and VP Brian Warner should be proposed as ex-officio members of the SOC of MERIM 2008.

Further suggestions were made with respect to:

- broadening the range of topics, particularly to reflect areas of regional strength;
- inviting the organizers to consider broadening the composition of the SOC and Invited Speakers, but the suggestions should be made diplomatically without lecturing the organizers;
- suggesting more African participation in the SOC, all the way down to and including South Africa;
- informing the organizers that having Invited Speakers from outside the region would be appropriate and could enhance the quality of the MERIM;
- putting the MERIM organizers in touch with the organizers of the recent APRIM and LARIM, in order to learn from their experiences;

Following general discussion, the MERIM 2008 proposal was accepted, with IAU sponsoring at the level of an IAU Symposium. The EC noted that this will require that two RIMs (the other approved RIM being APRIM 2008 in Kunming, China, 1-4 August 2008) will have to be funded in 2008 from the present 2006-2009 IAU budget.

The EC asked the AGS to communicate the above comments and suggestions to the proposers of this MERIM 2008.