

## COMMISSION 47: COSMOLOGY/COSMOLOGIE

J.V. NARLIKAR

*Inter-University Center for Astronomy & Astrophysics, Post Bag 4, Pune 411 077, India*  
*e-mail: jvn@iucaa.ernet.in*

Commission 47 held its Business Meeting on August 26, 1997, 09:00 hours, Room D

### Attendance

J.V. Narlikar (President in the Chair), P. Shaver (Vice-President), B. Partridge (Past-President and President, Division VIII), Y. Chu (O.C. Member), J. Einasto (O.C. Member), D. Jauncey (O.C. Member), P. Crane, A. Fairall, B. Tully, M. Wanas

### Condolences

The President welcomed all those present and began the proceedings by recording sorrow at the passing away of the Commission 47 members during 1994-97. He informed that as per the information supplied by the IAU Secretariat, the Commission had lost the following members:

Professor Hannes Alfvén  
Dr. Nicole J. Bel  
Professor Gérard de Vancouleurs  
Professor Robert H. Dicke  
Professor Odon Godart  
Professor Roger J. Tayler  
Dr. B.C. Xanthopoulos  
Dr. A.L. Zel'manov

All members present stood in silence as a mark of respect to the departed.

### New Members

The President presented a list of those IAU members who were admitted to the membership of Commission 47 during the triennium 1994-97. They had fulfilled the IAU criteria for commission membership.

The President further presented another list of new members admitted to the IAU at the Kyoto GA, who had expressed desire to be members of Commission 47. These were duly admitted with the proviso that if C. Kaul (India) and D. Kompaneets (Russia) wished to join C 44 (Space and High Energy Astrophysics) instead, they may be offered that option as their interest and field of expertise might lie closer with that commission.

### Division VIII Decisions

At the President's request Bruce Partridge, President, Division VIII summarized the decisions taken at the Business Meeting of Division VIII on August 23:

A decision was taken to keep the other commission within the Division (C 28, Galaxies) as it is, so that Division VIII would continue to have only two commissions.

P. Shaver would serve as President of Division VIII for the triennium 1997-2000.

During 1994-97 the Division structure was 'on probation'. At this GA it had now been formalized and so, the Division President will have closer liaison with the Executive Committee on matters relating to IAU meetings and other matters.

### Officers triennium 1997-2000

#### PRESIDENT

As per the procedure arrived at during the last Business Meeting at the Hague IAU-GA (1994) the Vice-President takes over as President of the Commission at the end of the triennium. In 1994, Commission 47 had two Vice-Presidents, P. Shaver and A. Szalay, who decided by mutual agreement, that A. Szalay would take over as Commission President at this Business Meeting.

Accordingly A. Szalay will serve as the President of Commission 47 for the period 1997-2000.

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Following the guidelines of the last Business Meeting, nominations for the Vice-President were invited from the OC members. Of the two names proposed, one withdrew and so only one name, that of J. Peacock was put up on the slate for a poll by the general membership of the Commission.

Accordingly J. Peacock was declared elected Vice-President of Commission 47 for the period 1997-2000.

#### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The 1994 Business Meeting had stipulated that the Organizing Committee should include about 12 members, including the President, Vice-President, Past President and President Division VIII as ex-officio members. Other OC-members should have two terms, unless a member is elected Vice-President or Division President.

As Y. Chu, J. Einasto, J. Peacock and A. Wolfe were elected in 1994, they would continue for another term. The guidelines of the 1994 Business Meeting further stipulated that nominations for OC should be invited from the general membership of the Commission 47 and that a ballot be taken of the membership to choose the required number from the slate, after ensuring that at least one OC member is taken from each of the following regions : (i) Asia-Pacific (ii) Europe-Africa (iii) Latin America and (iv) North America.

Accordingly a poll was conducted by the President and the following new members were declared elected to the OC of the Commission.

The entire OC of Commission 47 for 1997-2000 is as follows

PRESIDENT	A. Szalay	Hungary
VICE-PRESIDENT	J. Peacock	UK
*	Y. Chu	China PR
*	L. da Costa	Brazil
*	J. Einasto	Estonia
*	G.F.R. Ellis	USA
*	D. Koo	USA
	S.J. Lilly	Canada
Past-President	J.V. Narlikar	India
President, Division VIII	P. Shaver	Germany
*	R. Webster	Australia
	S. White	UK
	A. Wolfe	USA

\* Incoming members

### **Recommended Meetings**

The President informed that the following symposia had been recommended to the Executive Committee by the Organizing Committee for sponsorship of Commission 47:

Symposium entitled "The Light Elements and their Evolution" to be held in Natal, Brazil in 1998.

Symposium entitled "The Low Surface Brightness Universe" to be held in Cardiff in July 1998.

Symposium entitled "The Evolution of Galaxies on Cosmological Time Scales" to be held in Tenerife in July 1998.

Symposium entitled "Activity in Galaxies and Related Phenomena" to be held in Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory, Armenia from August 17-21, 1998.

B. Partridge, in his capacity as President, Division VIII, informed that the first symposium had been postponed by the organizers while the other three were under consideration of the IAU Executive Committee.

The President informed that at the meeting of Commission Presidents with the IAU officials on August 25, the incoming General Secretary had discussed revised guidelines that were being drafted for submitting proposals for new symposia. As per the new guidelines, a proposal would be first vetted by the concerned commission and forwarded to the division president, if found suitable for sponsorship. Based on the information supplied by the commission president(s) the division president would prioritize the symposia with appropriate gradings for final decision by the Executive Committee. The new guidelines will stipulate the time table for all these intermediate steps.

### **Other Matters**

Amongst any other matters, the President sought the members' feedback on the triennial scientific reports of the Commission, which appear in the IAU Transactions. He mentioned that based on the feedbacks received from the various commission presidents, the incoming General Secretary was preparing new guidelines for IAU Commission Reports. The commissions would have the option of preparing a short 2-3 page report listing highlights with source material (reviews, conferences, etc.) topicwise, rather than writing more detailed accounts. Some commissions may prefer the concise option while others may opt for the detailed ones as before.

There was some discussion on this issue where members highlighted advantages of both options. It was expected that the OC will take the decision for Commission 47 in the coming year.

### **Concluding Remarks**

The President thanked the Vice-Presidents and his other colleagues on the OC for the cooperation extended to him. He welcomed Alex Szalay as his successor and hoped that the existing and new members of the OC will continue to provide him with similar support. He specially thanked all those who wrote parts of the Triennial Report of Commission 47, some at relatively short notice. He complimented B. Partridge for his interactive guidance to the commission as Division President, and the IAU Secretariat for help on administrative issues.

On behalf of the Commission, Bruce Partridge proposed a vote of thanks and appreciation to the outgoing President for his leadership of the Commission.