

IAU Commission 26
Double and Multiple Stars

Business meeting: August 19, 1994, 14:00-15:30

1. Greetings and Introductions. President Helmut A. Abt presided; about 35 attended. The names of the preceding officers are Helmut A. Abt, Pres.; Charles E. Worley, Vice-Pres.; Harold A. McAlister, Past-Pres.; Organizing Comm.: P. L. Bernacca, H. A. McAlister, and E. L. van Dessel (all retiring); Y. Y. Balega, F. C. Fekel, C. D. Scarfe, and H. Zinnecker (all continuing). The new officers elected by mail are Charles E. Worley, Pres.; Hans Zinnecker, Vice-Pres.; Helmut A. Abt, Past-Pres.; Organizing Comm.: C. Allen, W. I. Hartkopf, and A. A. Tokovinin plus the above continuing members.

2. Necrology. The following members and valued friends died since the last General Assembly:

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| Sylvain Arend | Robert P. Harrington |
| Antoine Duquennoy | Frank Holden |
| Mario G. Fracastoro | Goro Ishida |
| Ingemar Furenlid | Zdenek I. Kopal |
| Wilhelm Gliese | Niels P. Wieth-Knudsen |

3. Co-option of New Members. The following have been added as new members of the commission:

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| Joannia Anodova | (Russia/Japan) |
| Robert W. Argyle | (England) |
| Miguel-Angel Herrera | (Mexico) |
| Robert Hindsley | (USA) |

4. Future Meetings:

June 1995, Calgary, Canada: "Binaries in Clusters" This was approved by the commission in a mail election but not approved as an IAU Colloquium. It will be held under other sponsorship. Eugene Milone described the meeting plans.

September 1996, Santiago de Compostela, Spain: "Binary Stars: Two Centuries Later". It is not clear whether the University of Santiago de Compostela will be able to host this meeting. Christine Allen (Mexico) will work with Drs. Docobo and Ling to formulate plans.

September 1996, Grenoble, France: "Herbig-Haro Flows and the Birth of Low-Mass Stars". The commission

members did not feel that there was much overlap between this topic and visual double stars. Also the commission hesitated to sponsor two international meetings in the same month, so it declined to sponsor this meeting.

5. Information Circular. This circular was started in 1954 by Paul Müller. It is sent to about 50 libraries and 100 commission members. The printing and distribution costs are not a burden to the new editors, Drs. J. A. Docobo and J. F. Ling. We we are indebted to our new editors. We also heartily thank Dr. Paul Couteau for having edited and distributed the Circulars from 1983 to 1993 (Nos. 91-120). The new editors would like to expand its contents, so astronomers are encouraged to send to them information about new papers concerning double stars. Dr. Hartkopf is willing to distribute the future circulars on WWW.

6. Specific Topics.

a. Hartkopf announced that a Third Speckle Catalog will be distributed by CHARA in 1995; the previous two were published in 1984 and 1988. Known errors in published information should be sent to him. It will include cross-references and will be distributed also on WWW.

b. A resolution proposed by Y. Kondo to protect the Julian Date definition was passed by the commission. It urged that we not use the "Modified Julian Dates" that delete 2,400,000.5. The confusion is in the subtraction of 0.5 day.

c. Observing time of large telescopes for double-star research. Dr. Ling proposed that we advocate that more such time be allotted, but the commission felt that outside pressures on telescope allocation committees might be counterproductive.

d. Pres. Abt described the current and evolving plans for restructuring the IAU. Those would not endanger the continued existence of the existing commissions.

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