

**Fourth Meeting of the Organizing Committee of the
IAU Commission on Massive Stars
18 October 2016**

All members (A. Herrero, J. Vink, N. St-Louis, Y.-H. Chu, A. ud-Doula, J. Groh and G. Rauw) are present by Skype.

Proposals for meetings to be held at the 2018 IAU AGM

Artemio informs us that there were a relatively large number of meeting proposals related to massive stars submitted to the IAU. Some resulted from emails our committee sent around to solicit proposals, others not. The committee was given the list for reference, although it is not completely final. The IAU executive committee is reviewing the list and might suggest to some groups to join efforts, if there is sufficient overlap. When the list is finalized, complete proposals will be requested. There are five proposals that are more closely related to our field of research: i.e. by D. Baade, L. Oskinova, M. Garcia, J. Groh and G. Rauw. Other proposals are also somewhat related to our field such as the one by T. Rivinius and another related to binaries. Some of these proposals are for Focus Meetings, others for Symposia. We find that it is a positive sign that so many proposals related to our area have been suggested. For a later stage in the selection process, the OC will be asked to rank these proposals.

Current web page changes (http://www.astroscu.unam.mx/massive_stars2/index.php)

There has been an unexpected delay in making the corrections we have requested to our old web page. Most of the changes we had asked for had already been implemented in the previous iteration. The remaining changes are quite small but there are still some important corrections to be made such as, the list of members of the OC members that is still out of date. G. Koenigsberger and L. Hernández (UNAM) say they will make the remaining modifications in the next few days.

Future new Webpage

The next step towards our new Webpage will be that the corrected version of our old page will become our official site. Suggestions for changes should be sent directly to Artemio. Once this Webpage contains the updated information, Artemio will send the address to the IAU so they can put a link to it in the official IAU commission Webpage and inform them that we are working on a new design. The committee is reminded that we had decided to keep our Webpage separate from that of the main commission and to only have a link in it to our Website.

We are informed that Jose and You-Hua have been in contact by email about the design for our new Webpage but that not much has been achieved yet. You-Hua will look into this in the upcoming weeks. Artemio asks the committee to continue thinking about what content and information we wish to have in this new Webpage and to send our ideas to Jose and You-Hua.

One idea we had discussed previously is to have beautiful scientific images related to massive stars, to stimulate interest in our field. We discuss the idea of initiating a concept similar to the *Astronomy Image of the Day*. We could ask people to send images that are representative of their research and one could be selected each month. We consider who will make this selection. One idea is that the selection be made via a popular poll of our community members. Another is that the OC make the selection. Finally, we agree that we will set up a repository in which members of our community can upload files, a sort of gallery of images, and the OC would select one every month to be put upfront in the main part of our new Webpage. We would ask the proposers to send the basic information on the images so proper credit can be given if other people decide to use these images. We decide that at the end of the year, we could have a poll of community members (using Google forms, for example) to choose the image of the year. The committee decides to try this out but to remain flexible so the concept can evolve with time. You-Hua and Jose are asked to take this suggestion into account when designing the new Webpage.

We discuss the fact that there are still problems with the 24h abstracts service. Some members are still reporting not receiving anything despite being on the list of members. It is decided that Artemio will contact Raphael about these problems with the distribution list.

Newsletter satisfaction questionnaire

Prior to this meeting, Artemio sent a draft of the satisfaction questionnaire to the committee. We are to send suggestions for improvements by the end of next week. Our initial idea was to send the questionnaire to members by email after the Auckland meeting but we decide that it is best to have it ready before the meeting instead. The presence of many massive star community members at the meeting can be used as an opportunity to secure a higher response rate to the questionnaire. In addition to sending it out to all members by email, we decide to ask JJ Eldridge if he would include the questionnaire in the participant package for the meeting.

Selection process for the next massive star meeting after Auckland.

Concerning the selection of future meetings, Artemio suggests we adopt the same process we had for selecting the Auckland meeting, which is to put up an announcement on the screen during a coffee break asking people that are interested in organizing the next meeting to make suggestions to the OC. We decide to also ask participants to call attention to this process to other members of the massive star community who are not present at the Auckland meeting. Subsequently, the proposals will be examined by the OC and a selection will be made.

Gregor informs us that some members of our community have expressed dissatisfaction regarding the selection process of massive star meetings. For example, some people find that the Auckland meeting has a negative ecological footprint for most of the participants. Asif reminds us that this has to be balanced with other considerations such as the positive impact of organizing such a meeting on smaller astronomical communities. Since our committee had already taken into account the negative ecological footprint when selecting the Auckland meeting, we conclude that the information about the selection process of meetings has not been made sufficiently clear to our community. We decide that we should convey our selection criteria to the community in

order to be more transparent. We decide that including this information in the meeting minute summaries of our OC meetings that will be included in the new Web page will be sufficient to transmit the information to our members.

Next meeting of the OC in New-Zealand

Those of us who will be present at the Auckland meeting will hold our first face-to-face meeting in New-Zealand during a lunch break. We decide to hold the meeting early in the week to have time to react to actions if needed. We finally agree on Tuesday November 29 2016.