PREFACE

Since 2001, the ADeLA (Astronomía Dinámica en Latino-América) meetings have taken place every 2-3 years, in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Venezuela. This edition in Colombia highlights the recent growth of astronomy research in the host country. In its seventh edition, ADeLA was held in Bogotá from September 28th to 30th 2016, hosted by the Universidad de los Andes.

ADeLA met together researchers from Latin American countries and beyond, to share their recent research and discoveries, to evaluate the state of-the-art, and to seek possible collaborative and funding opportunities in the areas of astrometry and dynamical astronomy, including ground and space-based astrometric techniques (trigonometric parallaxes, proper-motions, reference systems, catalogues), optical interferometry techniques, Galactic structure, solar system studies, among others.

The scientific organizing committee included Carlos Abad, Christine Allen, Felicitas Arias, Alejandro García (chair), René Méndez, Ricardo Podestá, Gonzalo Tancredi, Ramachrisna Teixeira, William van Altena, Katherine Vieira and Rodolfo Zalles. The local organizing committee chaired by Beatriz Sabogal, included María Gracia Batista, Jaime Muñoz, Bayron Rodríguez and Angélica Suarez. Additional logistic support was given by the staff of the Physics Department and the Centro Cultural of Uniandes.

Nearly 40 astronomers and graduate students from 11 countries spanning South and North America and Europe attended the meeting. A total of 8 invited talks, 19 contributed talks and 16 posters, were presented. The very recent Gaia Data Release 1 certainly was a key feature of the meeting, but also many other aspects of ground-based astrometry and topics as Galactic astrophysics, stellar astrophysics, geodesy and space debris and statistical tools, occupied a significant fraction of the talks and posters presented. History of astrometry and education were, as usual, part of the ADeLA meeting, considering that the formation of new specialists in this area is a key goal of this conference, which not only serves as a meeting point to foster research and collaborations, but also intends to serve as a place for students to learn about astrometry and all the exciting new science it can done through it. Presentations and audios of the contributions can be found on the ADeLA web site at: https://adela2016.uniandes.edu.co/index.php/en/.

Taken advantage of the meeting, 3 public talks were given in the Bogotá Planetarium by Katherine Vieira (Astronomía de película), Erik Høg (Young astronomer in Denmark 1946 to 1958) and Dante Minniti (Buscando otras tierras). The audience included secondary schoolers, undergraduate students and general public.

We want to thank the generous support of the Physics Department of the Universidad de los Andes, the Association of Graduates of the Universidad de los Andes (Uniandinos), the Colombian governmental agency that promotes the education (ICETEX), the Bogotá District Institute of Tourism (IDT), Sodexo Colombia and Delipavo, intitutions that made possible the VII ADeLA meeting. Our sincere thanks to the Instituto de Astronomía, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, for all the work involved in the publication of these proceedings, as well as for providing partial financial support for them.

Finally, we are very grateful to the "Adelista" community for the success of this AdeLA 2016 meeting. All us are invited to meet in the next AdeLA edition that will take place in Tarija, Bolivia, in October 2018.

A. García-Varela, K. Vieira, R. A. Méndez, C. Allen, W. van Altena, and M. Altmann Editors of the proceedings