

## PREFACE

ADeLA is the acronym for Astronomía Dinámica en Latino-América (Dynamical Astronomy in Latin America), a series of scientific meetings devoted to Astrometry, which have been taking place every few years since 2001. AdeLA meetings have taken place in Argentina (2001, 2012), Brazil (2002), Venezuela (2004) and Mexico (2008). Now in its sixth edition, the meeting was held in Santiago de Chile, from September 29th to October 1st 2014, hosted by the Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas of the Universidad de Chile.

ADeLA is the periodical forum of the small but active Latin-American astrometric community, where the latest research results and collaboration news are shared. In this occasion, the VI AdeLA meeting is also the first specific conference on Astrometry organized in Chile.

The local organizing committee was chaired by Christian Moni Bidin and included Juan Carlos Beamin, Julio Chanamé, Mariusz Gromadzki, Maximiliano Moyano and David Rodríguez, with the crucial logistics support of Journalist David Azocar and Multi-media designer Fernando Abalo. The scientific organizing committee included Carlos Abad, Christine Allen, Felicitas Arias, Alejandro García, René Méndez (chair), Ricardo Podestá, Gonzalo Tancredi, Ramachrisna Teixeira, William van Altena, Katherine Vieira, Rodolfo Zalles y Manuela Zoccali (co-chair).

Almost a hundred people attended the meeting from 15 countries spanning South and North America, Europe and Asia. 13 invited talks, 21 contributed talks and 24 posters were given, in the topics of time scales, astrometric reductions, parallaxes, surveys and catalogues, celestial mechanics, artificial satellites and space debris, solar system, stellar and planetary astrophysics, double and multiple stars, clusters and associations, galactic structure and dynamics, and education. All the presentations can be found on the ADELA site at: <http://adela2014.das.uchile.cl/>.

This ADeLA meeting was possible thanks to the support of many people and institutions, including: the Faculty of Physical Sciences and Mathematics of the University of Chile, the Chile-China Joint Center for Astronomy (which made possible the publication of our proceedings), the Millenium Institute of Astrophysics, MAS, the French-Chile International Mixed Unit of the CNRS, the Pontificia Universidad Católica, the Bureau of Energy, Science, Technology, and Innovation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the government of Chile, the Gemini-CONICYT competitive fund for the development of Astronomy in Chile, the European Southern Observatory, the Las Campanas Observatory and the GMT Corporation, the National Astronomy Observatories of Japan, and the AURA Observatories in Chile, and last but not least, the Astronomy Department of the Universidad de Chile. All these institutions provided funds, grants and logistical support that made possible to provide financial help for many of our attendees, including 40 undergraduate and graduate students from all over Latin-America.

The education in Astrometry of the younger generation of astronomers is also one of the main drivers of the ADeLA meetings. Our field is currently evolving to giant steps, jumping from milli- to micro-arcsecond precision. We are starting, at last, the process of building a bridge between the dense but less accurate optical reference frame realized by Hipparcos and ground-based connected catalogues, and the far scarcer but very accurate radio reference frame materialized by the VLBI network with the ICRFs.

In this regard, the VI ADeLA meeting had the associated workshop “The VLBI-Gaia connection - The next step in reference frames for Astronomy”. This workshop was chaired by Katherine Vieira, who joined Amelia Bayo, Christopher Jacobs and Francois Mignard, to lecture on the building of the ICRF using VLBI, current

## PREFACE

astrometric standards in the optical and infrared, and GAIA as the new optical realization of the ICRS. The workshop took place after the meeting, from October 1st to 3rd 2014 in the Humberto Fuenzalida Auditorium of the Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas at Universidad de Chile, and was attended by about 60 people in total.

Outreach is also part of the ADeLA meetings. For this edition we had two talks by Carlos Abad and Alejandro García titled “Mirando al cielo, el tiempo va pasando” (“Looking at the sky, times goes on”) and “Piedras del cielo” (“Rocks from the sky”), respectively. Attended was estimated in more than two hundred people, among them many secondary schoolers participating in the 2nd Festival of Engineering and Sciences organized those same days by the Universidad de Chile.

We are grateful to all attendants, participants, organizers, collaborators, and especially to all the sponsoring institutions that made possible the VI ADeLA meeting in Santiago de Chile. We look forward to the next ADeLA meeting that will take place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in October 2016.

Katherine Vieira, William van Altena, and René A. Méndez