

H·A·D NEWS

*The Newsletter of the Historical Astronomy Division
of the American Astronomical Society*

Number 59 ❧ February 2002

2002: Time to Nominate & Elect New HAD Officers

Later this year HAD members will be electing the HAD Division Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and two At-Large Committee members. For now, the HAD nominating committee will be finalizing its list of candidates for the Division chair sequence and Division committee over the next few weeks. Please contact the nominating committee chair, Virginia Trimble (vtrimble@uci.edu), if you have suggestions or are willing to volunteer for some task.

Call for Nominations for the 2004 LeRoy E. Doggett Prize for Historical Astronomy

The Doggett Prize Committee are now soliciting nominations for the 2004 prize. According to the rules, "The Prize shall be granted on the basis of either or both of the following criteria: a book, Ph.D. dissertation, article, or any other form of publication that significantly illuminates the history of astronomy, and that has been published during the previous six years; or long-term efforts of any kind that have significantly influenced the field of the history of astronomy. In the above, 'history of astronomy' is taken in its broadest sense, that is, to include all historical studies of the astronomical research, observations, practices, and beliefs of all cultures, past and present. "History of astronomy" also includes the discipline per se, that is, the institutions and practices that make it possible to do historical research involving astronomy."

Nominations consist of a detailed letter of support and a complete curriculum vitae for the nominee. Nominations may be proposed by any Member or Affiliate Member of HAD. In the event that a nominee is being proposed primarily for a single publication, it is the responsibility of the proposer to arrange for copies of the publication to be supplied to the Committee. If you need assistance preparing supporting materials for your nomination, please contact the Prize Committee and we may be able to provide assistance.

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The Chair's Corner . . .

Barbara Welther, HAD Chair

With the success of the Washington, DC meeting behind us, we now need to turn to the business of HAD in the coming months. The most important issue this year will be the election of two new Committee members and a Chair-elect. The members of the Nominating Committee this year are Virginia Trimble, Chair, Steve Dick, and Woody Sullivan. If any of them call you to serve, please say "yes."

Any member of HAD may serve a two-year term on the Committee. It's a rewarding way to learn more about the workings of HAD now and to put in your "two-cents" about how HAD will be run in the future. If possible, you should be able to attend the two meetings that fall during your term—Seattle in 2003, when you will be installed, and Atlanta in 2004, when we'll award the Doggett Prize to our fourth recipient.

To run for Chair-elect you need to be a full member of AAS as well as a member of HAD. You need to make attendance at meetings a priority. As Chair-elect, you will also be the Chair of the Obituary Committee. With the help of the staff in the AAS Executive Office, you will oversee having colleagues of deceased members write obituaries that will be published at the end of each year in the *Bulletin of the AAS*. After your two-year term as Chair-elect, you will receive the HAD plaque and gavel as you become the new HAD Chair. As such, you will have the privileges of setting up meetings and appointing members to various subcommittees.

We would like to have our slate of nominees for Chair-elect and HAD Committee compiled by May at the latest so we can send out ballots and hold our election this summer, rather than waiting until next fall. That way, successful candidates can set up their travel plans early enough next fall to take advantage of discounts. Please help us to achieve our goal this year by accepting nomination if called to do so, and by voting and returning your ballot promptly. Thank you.

Minutes of the January 7, 2002 HAD Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Barbara Welther, chair.

The reading of the minutes for the 2001 was suspended by Welther.

Welther began with her remarks:

- HAD has considered the possibility of meeting with the AAS Division of Planetary Science (DPS) in 2005 in Cambridge, England. Welther advocated having the regular HAD business meeting as well as regular HAD sessions at the AAS winter meeting in San Diego in 2005, while also allowing the possibility of holding a special HAD summer meeting or sessions with the DPS.
- The 25th anniversary of HAD in 2006 should be marked in some way, and an appropriate venue would be the AAS winter meeting in Washington, DC.
- Welther thanked Diana Alexander and the rest of the AAS staff for their help in arrangements for the HAD events for this winter 2002 meeting.
- The HAD Nominating Committee will begin its work in putting together a slate of officers for election by the membership. The Committee consists of Virginia Trimble (chair), Woodruff T. Sullivan, III, and Steven Dick. People are encouraged to send in nominations to the Committee; feel free to jump in and recommend your friends to be officers.
- It is now time to begin to nominate candidates for the LeRoy E. Doggett Prize for Historical Astronomy. Send all nominations to Brashear, the HAD Secretary. If necessary, people should feel free to submit names and the HAD Prize Committee will try to help in getting the supporting materials together.
- Regarding the membership of the Obituaries Committee, Joe Tenn is the HAD representative to the committee, Frank Edmonson is the AAS delegate, and Owen Gingerich was selected by the AAS Executive Office. Tom Williams is the editor of the AAS Obituaries. He could use more help in writing about recently deceased members and getting notifications of recent deaths.
- HAD membership is listed as 248 by the AAS, but this appears to be an old figure. Brashear noted that the last AAS Membership Coordinator left abruptly in early 2001 and the office was not filled until the late summer and that may have caused some problems in getting a more recent detailed accounting.

Brashear then gave the Secretary-Treasurer's report:

- The HAD checking account was, due to the change in the Secretary-Treasurer from Tom Hockey to Brashear, transferred from the University of Northern Iowa Credit Union to Riggs Bank in Washington, DC. This is the same bank where AAS keeps its accounts and this should make transferring funds between the two much easier.

- Due to problems with first-class mail to Brashear's normal work address, all USPS first-class mail to the Secretary-Treasurer should be sent to his home address (547 Francis Nicholson Way, Annapolis, MD 21401) to ensure timely receipt.
- Hopefully the problems that plagued the erratic issuance of *HAD News* in 2001 are behind us and we can look forward to a more regular regimen in 2002. There are issues of printing and mailing costs that we will need to face soon, and these can be discussed in more detail. Thanks were given to Ruth Freitag for her bibliography in 2001 and to Dorrit Hoffleit for her book reviews.
- Financial Report: The figures for 2001 are not complete since the AAS have not closed their books yet for 2001, so a preliminary report was made [The complete financial report for the year 2000 is appended at the end of the minutes].
- The *HAD News* costs were noted and how the switch from Iowa to DC means that HAD no longer has access to low-cost printing and mailing that was available at the University of Northern Iowa. Currently we are now using the printers and mailers used by AAS for their newsletter, and the costs are such that they cannot be maintained at the current rate for too long without some changes, such as finding a cheaper way of printing and/or mailing the issues. Another possibility would be switching from a quarterly to a triennial issuance. The desirability to maintain a print version of *HAD News* was noted.

Some discussion followed:

- There was some discussion of issuing an electronic version of *HAD News*. Although this was welcomed, it would only be done in conjunction with a print version. Since member dues go primarily to producing a print version, it would be odd to ask members to continue to pay dues and not receive a print version. It was noted that HAD members could indicate somehow that they approved of waiving their receipt of a print version while still agreeing to pay dues. Others noted that they though having three issues a year rather than four would be fine, as long as they were produced on a regular basis.
- There was some discussion of using electronic ballots rather than paper ballots for electing HAD officers. Some HAD members strongly preferred to stick with paper ballots, so if there was a switch to electronic ballots, it would have to be done in conjunction with paper ballots. No action was taken on this matter, but further investigation will be made into it.

Sullivan then reported on plans for the next HAD winter meeting in Seattle in January 2003:

- Sullivan wants to have a theme for one HAD session on Astrobiology.
- The Astrobiology session could be held on a Monday afternoon, with a regular HAD session in the morning.
- There are no interesting tour possibilities for historical astronomy in the Seattle area.
- Welther noted that there would be room for another theme HAD session if one is proposed.

Hockey passed on his planned report on the possibility of a joint HAD/DPS meeting in Cambridge, England in 2005 due to the lateness of the hour. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Welther adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

HAD Financial Operations Fiscal Year 2000

Income and Expenses

Income	
Investment Income	269.03
Dues	1,910.00
Unrestricted Donations	40.00
Total Income	2,219.03
Expenses	
Office Expenses	
Newsletter	1,100.00
Other Office	224.05
Total Office	1,324.05
Travel	617.57
Miscellaneous	174.00
Total Expenses	2,115.62
Net Income or Loss	103.41

Balance Sheet

Assets 1 January 2000

Cash Accounts	461.41
Investments	4,414.00
Total Assets	4,875.41

Impact of Operations Fiscal Year 2000

Impact of Current Operations	103.41
Change in Investment Values	-120.00
Net change in Assets	-16.59

Assets 31 December 2000

Cash Accounts	629.82
Investments	4,229.00
Total Assets	4,858.82

Leroy Doggett Endowment Fund Fund Operations – Fiscal Year 2000

Investment Income	1,180.00
Expenses	
Grants/Awards	750.00
Travel for Recipient	0.00
Total Expenses	750.00
Reinvested in Endowment	430.00
Net From Fund Operations	0.00

Endowment Balance Sheet

Assets 1 January 2000

20,539.00

Impact of 2000 Operations

Donations to endowment	634.00
Income Reinvested in endowment	430.00
Change in investment values	-545.00
Total Impact of 2000 Operations	519.00

Assets 31 December 2000

21,058.00

Respectfully submitted by Ronald Brashear, Secretary-Treasurer, with thanks to Tom Williams for the format of the financial report.

HOW HAD GOT ITS NAME

[In light of recent discussions about the focus of HAD, we thought we would print this brief note about the history of the origin of the Division's name.]

When the Division was founded, special attention was given to its name. It was deliberately called "Historical Astronomy Division" rather than "History of Astronomy Division" in order to give equal weight to two different aspects, not only the study of the history of astronomy but also the use of historical astronomical records for modern astronomy.

I think we would do well to maintain this nuance even if the two aspects don't, in fact, figure equally in our programs.

OWEN GINGERICH

2004 Doggett Prize nominations

(continued from page 1)

The Prize Committee consists of Virginia Trimble (Chair), Barbara Welther, Ronald Brashear (Secretary), Curtis Wilson, and Owen Gingerich. All nominations are to be sent to the Secretary of the Prize Committee. He will accept nominations until December 5, 2002. The Prize Committee's selection shall be guided by the nomination materials, further materials that they may solicit, and the desirability of balancing the awarding of Prizes over the years between different branches and styles of research or service in the history of astronomy. The Committee may also at any time make its own nominations for consideration.

For more information about the Doggett Prize and the rules, please see the web page at:

<http://www.aas.org/had/doggett.html>.

*Be sure to check out the HAD web page at:
www.aas.org/had/had.html*

HAD in Washington, DC January 2002

The 28th HAD meeting was held in conjunction with the 199th meeting of the AAS in Washington, DC. The HAD meeting began on Sunday, January 6, with a special session in the conference hotel, the Washington Hilton and Towers. The session was, "New Views of Historical Research in the 21st Century."

First up was Ronald Brashear of the Smithsonian Institution who spoke on "Heralds of Astronomy: Landmark Works in the History of Astronomy." In 1955, the famous science book collector Bern Dibner published his classic work, *Heralds of Science*, a description of two hundred books from his collection that marked great moments in the development of the sciences and technology. He included seventeen astronomy titles, from early works such as Regiomontanus's *Epitome of Ptolemy* (1496), Copernicus's *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres* (1543), and Kepler's *Astronomia Nova* (1609), up to Herschel's "Account of a Comet" (1782), Laplace's *Treatise on Celestial Mechanics* (1798-1825), and Adams's paper leading to the discovery of Neptune (1846). This collection is now at the Smithsonian's Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, and Ron talked a little about the titles that Dibner included and why these were selected and others were not included. You can find out more about the Dibner Library's collection at:

<http://www.sil.si.edu/Branches/dibner.htm>.

Next was Rudi Paul Lindner of the University of Michigan talking on "Crimson Tide: The Harvard Books on Astronomy." The Harvard Books on Astronomy, a series of crimson clad, fully illustrated volumes, cornered, for more than a generation, the market of readers interested in astronomy. A large number of astronomers owe their first serious initiation to the literature of astronomy to these books. Their style, presentation, design, and tone marked a clear departure from the inherited traditions in the field. Each summed up a field, awarded points for merit, and staked out paths for future study. No doubt each of the more mature readers of this abstract has his or her favorite volume, and even his or her own favorite edition of a particular volume. How the volumes evolved and what happened to the series with Harlow Shapley's retirement are not only questions in the history of the book but also form a commentary on the standards of scientific writing for the educated public. You can find out more about the Harvard books and much more at Rudi's web site, Café Museum, at <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~rpl/>.

Brenda Corbin of the U.S. Naval Observatory followed with her presentation, "New Online Resources for the Historian of Astronomy." A wealth of new resources are available on the web to aid the historian of astronomy in research. Digital images of portraits and photographs can be found online at the U.S. Naval Observatory, the Center for the History of Physics, the Library of Congress, and in other collections. Finding lists of obituaries and full text obituaries of astronomers are now available at several sites including the Royal Astronomical Society. Archival materials relating to astronomers and observatories are indexed at many university and society web sites. The Astrophysics Data System

(ADS) contains full text astronomy journals, some back to the beginning volume, but other sites also have full text general science journals online, such as the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*, which has many early articles on astronomy, optics and related subjects. As large numbers of libraries now have their card catalogs online, many citations to historical astronomy publications which formerly were not widely known can be easily located. Brenda discussed some very useful resources, but don't despair if you missed it! Her paper can be found at the USNO web site along with active links to the sites she discussed. Go there now; the URL is:

<http://www.usno.navy.mil/library/aasbgc2.html>.

Andre Heck of the Strasbourg Astrophysical Observatory then spoke on his institution, "Strasbourg Astronomical Observatory: Its People through its Multinational History." Strasbourg Observatory is quite an interesting place for historians: several changes of nationality since its foundation in the 19th century, high-profile scientists having been based there, big projects born (Hipparcos) or installed (CDS) in its walls, and so on. Andre gave a progress report on a project aiming not only at tracing back all of the observatory's scientific personnel from available publications and archives on both sides of the Rhine, but also at offering detailed biographies for the major figures. Be sure to see the English web site for the Observatory at <http://astro.u-strasbg.fr/Obs-e.html>.

Marc Rothenberg of the Smithsonian Archives gave a presentation he prepared jointly with Alan Bain of the Smithsonian Archives, "A great place to study astronomy: The Smithsonian Institution Archives." Astronomy was the second discipline supported by the Smithsonian Institution. Support of astronomical research at the Smithsonian Institution began in 1848, two years after the establishment of the organization, with the publication of Sears C. Walker's work on the orbit of recently-discovered Neptune. This was followed immediately by the publication of John Downes's lists of occultations. Over the succeeding 150 years, the Institution has continued to be a major participant in astronomical research. The paper presented highlights of the astronomical collections—both correspondence and astronomical data—held by the Smithsonian Institution Archives, hoping to encourage historical research in collections which have heretofore been neglected. For more information on the Smithsonian Archives, please see their web site at <http://www.si.edu/archives/>.

Craig Waff of Encyclopedia Americana followed with a presentation he prepared jointly with N. Kollerstrom of University College London on "A Documentary History of the Discovery of Neptune." The discovery of the planet Neptune by Johann Gottfried Galle on 23 September 1846 near the positions predicted by Urbain Jean Joseph Le Verrier and John Couch Adams has been justly considered by many the greatest achievement of Newtonian celestial mechanics. Aside from communications to societies and journals and a selection of letters published shortly after the discovery by British Astronomer Royal George Biddell Airy, however, contemporary documents (especially letters) concerning the discovery have in large part remained unpublished and scattered in numerous archives in England, France, the United States, Germany, and elsewhere. Partially in response to

the longtime disappearance and fortunate recent recovery of the Royal Greenwich Observatory file of documents on the discovery, the authors of this paper have formed the project of editing and annotating for publication a chronologically ordered collection of documents relating to the prediction, discovery, and orbit determination of Neptune. A lengthy introductory essay that would summarize research on the Neptune discovery that has been conducted by various historians would accompany such a collection. They have 550 letters right now and Craig put out a call for other documents that might exist and that they are unaware of. Please send any information you might have to Craig at cwaff@grolier.com.

Donald Clayton of Clemson University was the next speaker and he talked on "A Photo Archive for the History of Nuclear Astrophysics." A web site bearing this name has been created at Clemson University:

<http://photon.phys.clemson.edu/wwwpages/PhotoArchive>. Selected photographs (about 250) come from Don's personal photograph collection covering 45 years of research in nuclear astrophysics. The historiography will be described. Each photograph is accompanied by an accurate caption, including references to works being pursued at the time the photos were taken. The accuracy of the captions was itself a research effort, aided greatly by the author's three decades of daily diaries. Featured are the author's experiences with colleagues at Caltech (1956-67), Cambridge (1967-74), Rice University (1963-89), Heidelberg (1976-84) and Clemson University (1989-2001). Photographs may be used subject to the constraints and acknowledgments posted on the site. This entire collection has been given to the Center for the History of Physics, who will eventually also make the images available; however, old photographs are still being added. Don's captions may or may not be provided by CHP. Clemson University provided the time for this research project.

The final paper in Sunday's session was a late addition, Guenther Eichhorn of Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, speaking on "Historical Literature of the Astrophysics Data System." The ADS website at <http://adswww.harvard.edu/> holds all of the major astronomical journals complete back to volume 1 including *ApJ*, *AJ*, *MNRAS* (except for 10 volumes), *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, and the *PASP*. Others are in the process of being scanned. The ADS is also working with the John G. Wolbach Library at the CfA to digitize microfilms from selected historical observatory publications in astronomy, including reports, bulletins, and annals. During the first phase of this project (to be completed during the first months of 2002), they expect to make available online the raw scans for over 170 serials, for a total of 300,000 scanned pages. In order to make these scans more useful, the ADS has put out a call for volunteers to provide the metadata to the raw scans so that they can attach the actual page numbers to the scanned pages for better bibliographic retrieval. ADS have developed a software tool to facilitate this data entry for users and librarians willing to work with them. All one needs is a web browser, an internet connection, and time to spend working on the project. To volunteer, subscribe to the ADS Historical Literature Users Group. Find out more at the Project homepage:

<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/historical.html>.

During a break in the Sunday session we had a reception, jointly hosted by HAD and the American Institute of Physics's Center for History of Physics. During the reception, Joe Anderson of AIP gave a presentation on the resources of the CHP and its Niels Bohr Library. For more information about the CHP and its resources, go to its website, <http://www.aip.org/history>.

Monday saw two more paper sessions and a poster session. The first paper session had as its theme, "The Development of American Astrophysics: Ideas, Instruments, Observatories and Astronomers." It began with the presentation of the 2002 LeRoy E. Doggett Prize for Historical Astronomy to Donald E. Osterbrock. After the presentation, Don presented his paper, "The View from the Observatory: History is Too Important to be Left to the Historians." Don began his lecture by paying tribute to his mentors who encouraged and helped him to become a historian of astronomy, Mary Lea Heger Shane, Owen Gingerich, Helen Wright, and William G. Hoyt. He then spoke briefly on why he thought astronomers are interested in the history of their science: because they are interested in their roots, just as members of a family are interested in theirs. Don then spoke on his belief that it helps anyone who wants to understand the history of astronomy to know and understand astronomy. "History must be based on facts, which archives, scientific papers, and books can provide. Immersion in a field like astronomy makes one better qualified to understand what others have done in that field, and how they did it, as Ibsen, Hemingway, Tuchman, and Grisham have all stated and proved by example." He then closed with a progress report on his current project, the life and scientific career of the early American astronomer and solar physicist Charles A. Young (1834-1908).

More information about the talks at the HAD meeting will appear in the next issue of *HAD News*.



Ron Brashear (left) and Barbara Welther (right) present Don Osterbrock with the Doggett Prize certificate.

News from IAU Commission 41 (History of Astronomy)

HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY WORKING GROUPS

Introduction

Since 1991, four different specialist history of astronomy Working Groups (WGs) have been set up by the International Astronomical Union, through Commission 41 (History of Astronomy), and membership of these is open to all interested professional historians of astronomy, not just those who happen to be IAU members. These four WGs relate to:

Archives (chaired by Dr Suzanne Debarbat, France: Suzanne.Debarbat@obspm.fr)

Astronomical Chronology (chaired by Professor Alex Gurshtein, Russia: agurshtein@hotmail.com)

Historical Instruments (chaired by Professor Il-Seong Nha, Korea: SLISNHA@chollian.net)

Transits of Venus (chaired by Dr Wayne Orchiston, Australia: wo@aaoepp.aao.gov.au)

Archives WG

At the 1991 IAU General Assembly (GA) in Buenos Aires the following Resolution (C14) was adopted: "that the Union supports the initiatives taken by them [Commissions 41 and 5]:

1. to establish a register of the whereabouts of all extant astronomical archives of historical interest;
2. to impress on observatories and other institutions their responsibility for the preservation, conservation, and where possible, cataloguing of such archives;
3. to search for an institution that will allocate space and funds for maintaining such a register and publishing it." (*Proceedings of the Twenty-First General Assembly*, p.77).

C41 formed an Archives WG to further the objectives of this Resolution, and in the course of the next three years some progress was made in compiling national inventories of astronomical archives. Two archival Resolutions proposed by C41 were adopted at the 1994 GA in The Hague, and a number of members presented papers on their archival researches, and there were also discussions regarding the IAU archives. A further archival Resolution was adopted at the C41 Business Meeting at the 1997 GA in Kyoto, and at the 2000 GA in Manchester a half-day Special Session on "Inventory and Preservation of Astronomical Archives, Records and Artifacts" was held to give members an opportunity to report on their work furthering the aims of the WG. The current Committee members of this WG are: Dr S. Debarbat (France - Chair), Dr D. Green (USA), and Mr P. Hingley (UK).

Astronomical Chronology WG

This WG was formed at the 2000 IAU Manchester GA specifically to compile a wide-ranging internationally-approved master list of the major milestones in the history of astronomy (including key instruments, astronomical phenomena, discoveries and new ideas) that profoundly influenced its development. The Committee members of this WG are: Professor A. Gurshtein (Russia - Chair), Professor A. Blaauw (Netherlands), Dr T. de Jong (Netherlands) and Professor B. Warner (South Africa).

Historical Instruments WG

When the Archives WG was set up in 1991 there was discussion about whether to include historical instruments within an enlarged WG and it was decided at that time to defer such a move until progress had been made with the archives initiative. Subsequently, a Resolution urging preservation of surviving instruments associated with the measurement of the arc of the meridian made by F.G.W. Struve was adopted at the C41 Business Meeting at the 1997 GA in Kyoto. At the 2000 Manchester GA members of C41 felt the time was right to form an Historical Instruments WG as a complement to the Archives WG. The objective of this new WG is to draw up an inventory of all internationally-significant astronomical instruments; to assemble a bibliography of existing publications relating to such instruments; and to encourage colleagues to carry out research and publish their results. The Committee members of this WG are: Professor I-S. Nha (Korea - Chair), Dr W. Orchiston (Australia) and Mr J. Briggs (USA).

Transits of Venus WG

At the 2000 GA in Manchester, the following Resolution was adopted at the C41 Business Meeting: "Recognizing the historical importance of previous transits of Venus and the numerous transit of Venus expeditions mounted by various countries, and Noting the rarity of the upcoming transits in 2004 and 2012 Commission 41 Recommends that the sites of previous transit of Venus expeditions be inventoried, marked and preserved, as well as instrumentation and documents associated with these expeditions." In order to take this Resolution forward, the Transits of Venus WG was formed, with the additional aims of assembling a bibliography of existing publications relating to all transits of Venus, and encouraging colleagues to carry out further research and to publish their results. The Committee members of this WG are: Dr W. Orchiston (Australia - Chair), Dr S. Dick (USA), Professor A. Gurshtein (Russia) and Professor R. Kochhar (India).

Concluding Remarks

All four WGs now come under the umbrella of the Inter-Union Commission for History of Astronomy (ICHA), which was set up in 2001 by the IAU and the Division of History of Science of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science in 2001 (there is a separate article about this elsewhere in this newsletter).

Anyone interested in joining one (or more) of the above WGs should contact the relevant Chairperson (their e-mail addresses are given above in the "Introduction"). There are no WG membership fees, and contacts are maintained via e-mail. The Historical Instruments WG has also set up a Web site. In addition, we plan to hold half-day meetings of each WG at the July 2003 General Assembly of the IAU, which will be held here in Sydney, Australia. This will give WG members and other interested astronomers a chance to report on their work during the triennium. For general enquiries about the ICHA or the WGs feel free to contact me at the Anglo-Australian Observatory (PO Box 296, Epping, NSW 2121, Australia) or by e-mail (wo@aaoepp.aao.gov.au).

Wayne Orchiston
Secretary, C41.

ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS AND ARCHIVES FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Call for Papers

An international conference on "Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Region" will be held in Cheongju, Korea, between 2-5 July 2002 to commemorate the inauguration of the Nha Il-Seong Museum of Astronomy. This Conference is organised by IAU Commission 41 and the newly-formed Inter-Union Commission for History of Astronomy (ICHA), and will constitute the first formal conference and meeting of the ICHA. In Korea, the Conference will be sponsored by the City of Cheongju, the Korea Astronomy Observatory and the Ministry of Science and Technology. Meanwhile, the following Scientific Organising Committee has been set up:

Professor Il-Seong Nha (Korea: Chairman), Professor Richard Stephenson (UK: Deputy-Chairman), Dr Wayne Orchiston (Australia: Secretary), Dr Christine Allen (Mexico), Dr Suzanne Débarbat (France), Dr Kwan-yu Chen (USA), Dr Steven Dick (USA), Professor Alexander Gurshtein (Russia), Dr Bambang Hidayat (Indonesia), Professor Rajesh Kochhar (India), Dr Lui Ciyuan (China), Dr Tsuko Nakamura (Japan), Professor Boonraksar Soonthornthum (Thailand).

The program will include paper sessions, C41/ICHA business meetings, a city tour and a visit to the Korea Astronomy Observatory, one or two dinners and a banquet. For the paper sessions we are seeking papers about individual or small groups of related archives or historic astronomical instruments that are either from, or relate to, the Asian region, any of the Pacific nations, or American countries that have Pacific Ocean coastlines. Most of those selected by the SOC to deliver papers will be assigned 20-30 minutes (including question time); other titles offered will be accepted as poster papers. If you would like to offer a paper, please access the Conference Web site (see below) and submit your Abstract Form by 2002 April 30. Those using ordinary mail should post their title and abstract to either Il-Seong Nha (The Nha Il-Seong Museum of Astronomy, San-133 Gamcheon-myon, Yechon-gun, Kyungbuk 757-910, Korea) or Wayne Orchiston (Anglo-Australian Observatory, PO Box 296, Epping, NSW 2121, Australia) by the deadline. The plan is to publish all papers in a conference proceedings, and Professor Nha and Drs Debarbat and Orchiston have agreed to serve as co-editors.

This Conference will be held in the city of Cheongju, which is 128km south-east of Seoul. Cheongju has an international airport, and is also accessed from Incheon International Airport (with a connecting shuttle bus). Accommodation will be in tourist hotels, with a nightly room rate of between US\$50 and US\$70 depending on the number of bookings. The Conference registration fee is US\$100 if paid by 2002 May 1 and US\$120 thereafter. This fee includes a copy of the conference proceedings, the welcome banquet and one or two dinners, the city tour and the Observatory excursion. There is a registration fee of US\$70 for accompanying guests. For further details please consult the Conference Web site: <http://www.nhamuseum.org/conference2002>

This contains a registration form, plus travel and accommodation details. Those seeking additional information should contact Professor Nha.

Il-Seong Nha (SLISNHA@chollian.net)

Richard Stephenson (f.r.stephenson@durham.ac.uk)

Wayne Orchiston (wo@aaoepp.aao.gov.au)



Some of the speakers at the HAD meeting (left to right): Craig Waff, Ron Brashear, Brenda Corbin, Don Osterbrock, Marc Rothenberg, and Andre Heck.

IMPORTANT:

If your mailing label has a "2001" to the right of your name, then your HAD membership has expired and this will be your last HAD News. To renew, please send \$10, payable to the AAS, to the HAD Secretary, Ron Brashear at 547 Francis Nicholson Way, Annapolis, MD, USA, 21401.

Historical Astronomy Division
of the American Astronomical Society
Chair: Barbara L. Welther, bwelther@cfa.harvard.edu
Vice-Chair: Thomas R. Williams, trw@rice.edu
Secretary-Treasurer: Ronald S. Brashear, brashearr@sil.si.edu
Past Chair: Virginia Trimble, vtrimble@uci.edu
Committee Members: Brenda G. Corbin, bgc@sicon.usno.navy.mil;
Thomas A. Hockey, Thomas.Hockey@uni.edu
Website: <http://www.aas.org/had/had.html>

HAD News is published on February, May, August, and November, and sent to all individual members of the Historical Astronomy Division of the American Astronomical Society. The deadline for news and announcements is the fifteenth of the month prior to the month of publication. Please send contributions as email attachments in either Microsoft Word or WordPerfect to Ronald Brashear at brashearr@sil.si.edu.

THE INTER-UNION COMMISSION FOR HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY

We are pleased to announce the formation of the Inter-Union Commission for History of Astronomy (ICHA) by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the Division of History of Science of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science (DHS/IUHPS). The ICHA is an international body representing the interests of *all* professional historians of astronomy worldwide. It encourages research into the history of astronomy, facilitates communication between researchers, organizes scientific meetings, undertakes collaborative projects, and publishes a bi-annual newsletter. The ICHA will also prepare recommendations for the IAU and the IUHPS, and will liaise with other international organisations. Membership is open to the entire history of astronomy community. Those who are IAU members become full members of the new Commission, while those who conduct their research through the IUHPS become associate members. New members (of either kind) are elected to the ICHA at the triennial General Assemblies of the IAU.

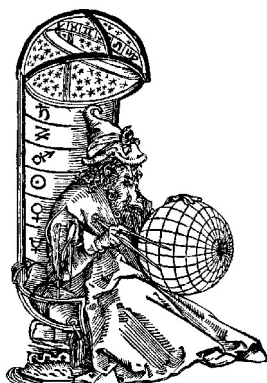
The ICHA is governed by an Organising Committee (OC) of ten. The inaugural OC, which is based on the current OC of Commission 41, comprises: President: Professor Richard Stephenson (UK: f.r.stephenson@durham.ac.uk), Vice-President: Professor Alex Gurshtein (Russia: agurshtein@hotmail.com), Secretary: Dr Wayne Orchiston (Australia: wo@aaoepp.aao.gov.au), Members: Dr Steven Dick (USA: steve.dick@usno.navy.mil), Dr Wolfgang Dick (Germany: wdi@potsdam.ifag.de), Professor Rajesh Kochhar (India: rkochhar2000@yahoo.com), Dr Tsuko Nakamura (Japan: tsuko@cc.nao.ac.jp), Professor Il-Seong Nha (Korea: SLISNHA@chollian.net), Professor Woodruff Sullivan (USA: woody@astro.washington.edu), Professor Brian Warner (South Africa: Warner@physci.uct.ac.za).

Production of the *ICHA Newsletters* is the responsibility of an Editorial Board comprising Dr Ileana Chinnici (Italy), Professors Gurshtein and Stephenson, and Dr Orchiston. Newsletters are scheduled to appear in June and December. The official establishment of a genuine Inter-Union Commission by the two parent Unions is a major step forward for the history of astronomy community. IAU Commission 41 was founded in 1948, and for decades there has been close co-operation between colleagues from this Commission and those associated with the DHS/IUHPS. During the 1970s an attempt was made to have C41 formally recognized as a joint commission of the two Unions, but this initiative was unsuccessful. However in 1994 the idea somehow took hold that C41 had become "A joint IAU-IUHPS Commission" (*IAU Transactions XXIIB*, p.207), even though its status was unchanged, and this notion was perpetuated through the 1994 *ICSU Yearbook* (see p.104). Once this fiction of a "Joint Commission" or "Inter-Union Commission" was established, it was accepted without question until the true situation was discovered in late 2000. The quest for a true Inter-Union Commission then became a priority of the C41 Organising Committee, and we are delighted to see so pleasing an outcome. Under the aegis of the ICHA, historians of astronomy worldwide can look forward to an era of unprecedented co-operation and harmonious collaboration. If you are not already a member of IAU Commission 41 and are interested in becoming a member of the ICHA please contact the Secretary, Dr Wayne Orchiston (wo@aaoepp.aao.gov.au).

F. Richard Stephenson (*President, ICHA*)
Alexander Gurshtein (*Vice-President, ICHA*)
Steven J. Dick (*Immediate Past President, IAU C41*)
Wayne Orchiston (*Secretary, ICHA*)

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