

DIVISION IV / COMMISSION 45 / WORKING GROUP

STANDARD STARS

CHAIR
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Christopher J. Corbally
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PROCEEDINGS BUSINESS MEETING on 16 August 2006

1. Business

The meeting of the Working Group on standard stars (WG-SS) opened under the chairmanship of Corbally. Gray, as editor, gave a report on the Standard Stars Newsletter (SSN). Through a round of thanks given to Gray, it was recognized by the two dozen present that this publication is the major vehicle between WG-SS meetings for achieving its tasks, namely promoting and communicating work on standard stars. Copies of the newsletter can be downloaded from <http://stellar.phys.appstate.edu/ssn>.

2. Discussion

The meeting broadly considered the status of work on standard stars and then was largely devoted to a discussion on evolving the WG-SS and the SSN with the times. It was felt that, with the development of new photometric and spectrophotometric systems by the large surveys, there was even more need for communication among the various survey teams and from these teams to the individual researchers, who would use the survey databases. Practical proposals to further such communication included:

- (a) promoting a web-based bibliography of papers on standard stars, such as the current **Standard Objects For Astronomy** site (<http://sofa.astro.utoledo.edu/SOFA/>);
- (b) expanding the WG-SS membership, especially to those working on the new, large survey systems;
- (c) making and promoting a web-based discussion forum for standard star issues;
- (d) changing to the ApN's strategy of posting contributions immediately to a website, and "crystallizing" these into a newsletter issue after six months;
- (e) communicating the changed structure and possibilities of interaction to the whole IAU membership, perhaps via the IAU Information Bulletin.

In the light of these discussions those present considered that an updated WG-SS would continue to fulfill a unique service to astronomy. To help achieve this, Corbally was prevailed upon to continue as chairperson and Gray as newsletter editor.

Christopher J. Corbally
chair of the Working Group