

24. PHOTOGRAPHIC ASTROMETRY (ASTROMETRIE PHOTOGRAPHIQUE)

PRESIDENT: Christian de Veegt

VICE PRESIDENT: Catherine Turon

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: A.N. Argue, P.D. Hemenway, H. Jahreiss,
D.D. Polojentsev, J. Stock, W.F. van Altena,
J.J. Wang

1.0 Introduction

Due to the new structure of the IAU General Assembly at Den Haag, no scientific session was allotted to Commission 24. However a so called "Working Group Meeting on international catalog projects" was held on Saturday morning, Aug.20 (2 Sessions) in cooperation with Commission 8. Furthermore a business meeting was held. Scientific activities of most members were directed to IAU Symposium 166, which was held from Aug. 15 to 19. In addition a short meeting of the Working Group on Reference Frames was held.

2.0 Business Meeting

The business meeting was held on the afternoon of Aug.18. Following the welcoming remarks by the president, the certification of the election results for the officers for 1994 -1997 was accomplished. President: C.Turon (France), Vice President: P.A. Ianna (USA). Organizing Committee: C. Lopez (Arg.), I.Kumkova (CIS), K.J.Johnston (USA), H.G.Walter (Germany), G.White (Australia), P.Hemenway (USA), E.Schilbach(Germany), Wang Jia Ji (P.R.China), C. de Veegt ex.off. (Germany). The above results of the election were accepted by the members present.

The members observed a minute of silence in respect for 6 of our members who died during the past triennium: Past President W.Gliese(Germany), members R.S.Harrington(USA), J.A.Hughes(USA), P.Lacrout (France), C.A.Smith(USA), M.S.Zwerve (CIS).

Five new members of the Commission were approved: M.Geffert, H.J.Tucholke, R.D.Scholz (Germany), S.Gauss, T.Rafferty (USA).

L.Quijano (Spain) retired from the Commission.

A short report from the Working Group on Reference Frames was given by C. de Veegt. The WG accomplished the first part of its task and presented a list of 606 extragalactic radio sources as the basis of the new extragalactic reference frame. A corresponding resolution (B6) was passed to the IAU at the end of Symposium 166. Commission 24 agreed that the WG should continue for the coming period, the inclusion of new members was discussed.

A brief report from the Working Group on stars lists was given by T.Corbin, for details see the corresponding report of commission 8.

The working group meeting WGM3 on international catalog projects was addressed briefly by the chairman C. de Veegt. The WG meeting will be held as a joint session with commission 8 and will focus on the discussion of present and future large catalog projects with special view to the Hipparcos results. Results will be published in Highlights of Astronomy.

3.0 Triennial Report

The triennial report of our commission was compiled by the president and will be published in the Proceedings Volume.

4.0 Restructuring of Commissions

The creation of an intermediate layer between Commissions and the IAU Executive Committee called "Divisions" was announced. Commission 24 agreed to join Division 1 (Fundamental Astronomy) together with Commissions 4, 8, 19 and 31. The members also expressed their strong opinion to continue as an independent commission under the present designation.