COMMISSION 7 : CELESTIAL MECHANICS AND DYNAMICAL ASTRONOMY

Report of Meeting, 10 August 2000

President : C. FROESCHLÉ
Vice-President : J. HADJIDEMETRIOU
Secretary : A. LEMAITRE

1. Election of the Organizing Committee

The commission elected the following officers and members of the Organizing Committee for the term 2000 – 2003 :

President: J. Hadjidemetriou
Vice-President A. Milani
Secretary A. Lemaitre
Members: J. Burns
R. Dvorak
C. Froeschl (Past President)
T. Fukushima
I. A. Gerasimov
D. C. Heggie
Z. Knežević
A. Lemaitre
J. C. Muzzio
M. Sidlichovsky
M. Soffel
Y.-S. Sun

2. Election of Consultant Members of the Commission

The following non-IAU members were elected as consultant members of Commission 7 for their extended contributions to activities relevant to the Commission :

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Re-elected</th>
<th>New consultants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Giorgilli (Italy)</td>
<td>A. Celletti (Italy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. R. Meyer (USA)</td>
<td>B. Gladman (France)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Neishtadt (Russia)</td>
<td>M. Guzzo (Italy)</td>
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<td>C. Simò (Spain)</td>
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3. Election of New Members of the Commission

The following new IAU members were approved for membership in Commission 7, following proposals by their National Committees or by members of the Commission Organizing Committee:

- S. Breiter (Poland)
- J. Chambers (UK)
- P. Descamps (France)
- C. Giordano (Argentina)
- S. Giuliani Winter (Brazil)
- P. Hallan (India)
- X. Hu (China PR)
- T. Kalvouridis (Greece)
- S. Klioner (Germany)
- E. Kuznetsov (Russia)
- A. Lecavalier des Etangs (France)
- S. Levine (USA)
- W. Liu (China PR)
- J. Ma (China PR)
- P. Michel (France)
- P. Patsis (Greece)
- Y. Xia (China PR)
- J. Xu (China PR)
- J.-L. Zhou (China PR)

The following IAU members (already members of another commission) were approved for membership in Commission 7, following proposals by members of the Commission Organizing Committee:

- J. Burns (USA)
- J. Colin (France)
- H. Varvoglis (Greece)

4. Deceased Members

At the session opening the presents revered the memory of those Commission members whose decease was brought to our knowledge:

- Kaula William
- Széchenyi Victor
- Oesterwinter Claus
- Izvekov Vladimir
- Moons Michèle
- Kustaanheimo Paul
- Eichhorn Heinrich
- Garfinkel Boris
- Farinella Paolo
- Sessin Wagner
5. Web site of commission 7

The web site of the commission has been updated; its address is http://www.elec.ucl.ac.be/IAU7/ which can also been reached through the IAU general web site. The members of commission 7 would like to find on this site as many informations as possible about meetings or schools.


The triennial report published in the IAU Transactions was written by specialists to review the progresses in some topics selected in advance.

For 1997-1999 the topics and the chosen specialists were:

- Dynamics of the Asteroid Belt: N. Murray
- Dynamical Transfer in the Solar System: B. Gladman
- Symplectic Integrators: J. E. Chambers
- Non-Integrable Galactic Dynamics: D. Merritt
- Orbit determination and impact risk: A. Milani

7. Future IAU colloquia or symposia

Commission 7 tries to propose a Symposium every three years on a subject of actuality considered as relevant and broad enough to guarantee the support of a few other IAU Commissions.

For the past three years, no symposium but two colloquia were organized:

- IAU Colloquium 172: Impact of modern dynamics in astronomy, Namur, Belgium, July 6-11, 1998

The project for the next three years is to organize an IAU Symposium in Vienna, in September 2002.

8. Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy

J. Henrard, editor in chief of Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy presented a report on the current situation of the journal.

Out of the two main problems for the Journal mentioned in the report three years ago (Science citation index and delays of publication), one is solved and the other one is on its way to be solved. The Journal is again in the list of “source journals” for the Science citation index with an impact factor of 0.445, which is not bad for a mathematical journal and not very good for an astronomical journal. Let us recall that actually the impact factor does not measure the real impact of a journal but its immediate impact, as only citations of papers published in the last two years are counted. For fields where the speed of publication is lower this is much too short.

The second problem concerned the fact that the Journal was late by about six months with respect to the announced schedule of publication. The Journal is still late by a few months but the gap will close probably in 2001 because the flow of submission is now large enough.

9. Commission meetings during the General Assembly

The following question was debated in Manchester, in the meeting of the presidents of commissions: should the meetings of the commissions during the General Assembly be only business, or should they include scientific matters? No general decision was taken in Manchester. The problem is that these meetings are not attended by many people, especially not by young scientists. An interesting commission
meeting could attract the attention of more people, to attend the General assembly. It was also mentioned that many people would be reluctant to present scientific papers in a commission meeting if there will not be any proceedings to publish their work.

For Commission 7, a first proposal would be to present only review papers, focusing on the current topics of research in Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy, together with information on where such a research is taking place. The SOC has to think about this proposition for Sydney 2003.