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Progress in european astrophysics proceedings of the JENAM-95 selected contributions

N. Bochkarev^a
^a Sternberg Astronomical Institute, Moscow, Russia

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PROGRESS IN EUROPEAN ASTROPHYSICS

Proceedings of the JENAM-95

SELECTED CONTRIBUTIONS

Edited by N. Bochkarev

Sternberg Astronomical Institute, Moscow, Russia

PREFACE

The 4th Meeting of the European Astronomical Society (EAS) held jointly with the 39th Italian Astronomical Society Meeting (JENAM-95) was held in Catania (Sicily) September 25–29 1995. The present Congress brought together nearly 300 participants from 34 European states. As one can see from an official title of the Congress “Progress in European Astrophysics (Facilities, New Instruments and Technologies, Science Challenges)” the 4th EAS Meeting sessions encompassed practically all the topics of contemporary astrophysical research. The agenda included plenary and nine parallel topical sessions plus two special sessions and two specially convened meetings. A heavy accent was placed this time on ongoing or future large-scale astronomical projects both ground based and cosmic.

In addition to examining purely scientific and technological challenges, discussion focused upon various organizational and logistic aspects of scientific cooperation between astronomers in the east and west. All this is reflected in the topics of the invited reviews presented at the plenary sessions (see the text of the agenda). An enormous amount of preparatory work to this end was done by the EAS authorities as well as by scientific and local organizing committees plus the Secretariat (headed by Professors M. Rodono and S. Catalano). Specifically 80 travel and accommodation grants were allocated for the participants from Eastern Europe and for students. A thick volume of Abstracts containing summaries of all scientific contributions submitted to JENAM-95 was issued by the hosts and distributed among the participants.

In view of the global nature of most of the international large-scale projects the problems of operative exchange of information its retrieval, processing and archiving figured among the topics of the business meeting of EAS. It was emphasized that the Newsletter of the EAS (editor: Dr T. Courvoisier) should remain the public rostrum and also one of the important tools for keeping and strengthening ties between both individual members and the affiliated societies with the EAS. To

facilitate contacts between astronomers from all over the European continent in 1994 the EAS authorities issued and distributed (free of charge) the “Membership and Institutes Directory”, a publication which contains the names, postal addresses, telephone and fax numbers of about 1500 EAS members. The publication of a new, revised version is envisioned for the forth coming year. An electronic version of the job register has been established by the authorities of the EAS to help young astronomers.

The 4th EAS Meeting had no official proceedings. In view of this the Euroasian Astronomical Society along with the Editorial Board of *Astronomical and Astrophysical Transactions* have launched an initiative to publish the poster reports of the 4th EAS Meeting in a special issue of the journal.

Appendix. Plenary Sessions (Invited reviews)

C. Barbieri:	The Galileo Italian National Telescope and its instrumentation
S. Beckwith:	The search for other planetary systems
G. Dall'Oglio:	Astronomy in the antarctic area
K. Danzmann:	Gravitational waves
R. L. Davies:	The Gemini project
R. Giacconi:	ESO VLT status
F. Macchetto:	The scientific impact of <i>Hubble Space Telescope</i>
M. Malacarne:	Community actions in research and technological development and their relationship with european astrophysics
L. Paterno:	Seismology of the Sun and Sun-like stars
M. A. C. Perryman:	Hipparcos and the future of space astrometry
F. Praderie:	Big science: why and where?
P. Salinari:	The Large Binocular Telescope Project
F. Sanchez:	The Canary Islands international facilities and the Large Telescope Project
R. Schlizzi:	The European VLBI network
G. Stirpe:	Seyfert galaxies
J.-P. Swings:	Horizon 2000 and beyond
G. A. Tammann:	The Hubble constant
R. West:	Shoemaker–Levy, one year after the impact on Jupiter
L. Woltjer:	Perspectives of european astronomy
Session 1:	Advances in astronomical instrumentation and its best use
Session 2:	The Sun
Session 3:	The Solar System
Session 4:	Interstellar medium and star formation
Session 5:	Stars and stellar systems
Session 6:	Stellar evolution and normal galaxies
Session 7:	High-energy astrophysics and active galaxies
Session 8:	Astroparticles and gravitational waves
Session 9:	Large scale structure of the Universe and cosmology

Special Meeting M1: The spectrum series missions
Special Meeting M2: Adverse environmental impacts on astronomy
Special Session S1: Astronomical data archives
Special Session S2: Possibilities for a New European HST instrument

I. Pustylnik