

Education and Public Outreach Committee Report

June 5, 2014

Submitted by Dennis Crabtree (Chair).

This report covers the period from May 2010 to May 2011.

Current Committee Members

Chair:	Dennis Crabtree	(2005-14) NRC-HIA
Vice-Chair:	Joanne Rosvick	(2005-14) Thompson Rivers University
Members:	Julie Bolduc-Duval	(2010-14)
	Jan Cami	(2008-14) UWO
	Eric Chisholm	(2010-15) NRC-HIA
	Yvan Dutil	(2008-14) T3E
	Louise Edwards	(2008-14) Caltech/IPAC
	Mike Reid	(2012 – 2015) Dunlap Institute
	Gordon Sarty	(2008-14) University of Saskatchewan
	Ian Short	(2009-16) St. Marys University
ex-officio	Leslie Sage	
Board Representative:	Lorne Nelson	Bishops

Dennis Crabtree is stepping down as Chair of the EPO Committee as of the Quebec AGM. Mike Reid has agreed to take on the role of Chair of the CASCA EPO Committee.

IAU Commission 46

The IAU is disbanding the current Commissions and asking people to submit proposals for new commissions. The idea is to rejuvenate the IAU commission structure. Commission 46 which deals with education, currently has national representatives and I expect that a new Commission 46 will maintain this concept. The EPO committee will need to identify a suitable person to fill this role.

International Year of Light

2015 has been designated as the International Year of Light (IYL) by the UN. The IAU has established an Executive Committee Working group to guide the IAU's involvement in IYL. The WG has issued a solicitation for proposals for astronomy programs in support of IYL themes. More information can be found at: <http://iau.org/iyl/proposals/>

The CASCA EPO committee had a telecon in March at which possible CASCA activities associated with IYL were discussed. Beyond rebranding current programs and activities to associate them with IYL, the committee had an idea for one new initiative. To 'introduce' the public to the concept of spectroscopy, the idea is to distribute paper diffraction glasses to the public at Canada Day 2015 fireworks displays. These glasses cost pennies per pair (see below) and can be branded with a sponsor's logo or other information. CASCA would work with the RASC to distribute 10's of thousands of these glasses so people could experience the fireworks spectroscopy.

http://www.alibaba.com/product-detail/custom-paper-diffraction-glasses-for-festival_1498604016.html