

Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie

Meeting of the Board of Directors via videoconference

Minutes for Monday 15th January 2024, 15:00-17:00 EDT

Present:

Sarah Gallagher (President)
Adam Muzzin (Vice President) – joined at 3:35 pm
Chris Wilson (Past President) – joined at 3:35 pm
Renée Hložek (Director)
Karun Thanjavur (Director) – left at 4:15 pm for LCRIC meeting
Maria Drout (Director)
Matt Taylor (Director)
Rob Cockcroft (Secretary)
Lewis Knee (Treasurer) – joined at 3:35 pm

1. Adoption of agenda
 - a. Moved by Matt; seconded by Maria; adopted.
2. Approval of minutes from December's meeting
 - a. Moved by Maria; seconded by Matt; approved.
3. President's report
 - a. **Action item: all** (not during meeting): Please read and add comments or edits in suggestion mode for the ACURA report by Jan 17. Next ACURA meeting is Jan 22.
4. VP's report
 - a. Committees are populated and associated websites are updated; Sarah thanks the tremendous work for both these items, especially to Adam.
5. Approval of IAU applications
 - a. Nine new applications (two individual and seven junior); a background check revealed all are astronomers. CFHT members are historically processed through Canada, and we will continue to do that. One person applied for junior membership but was eligible to be a full member – we will note to them that they can update their membership next year.
 - b. Motion to accept applications as requested.
 - i. Moved by Sarah; seconded by Maria; approved.
 - c. **Action item: Maria** will be approve all applications on the IAU website
 - d. **Action item: Maria** will welcome the new IAU members on behalf of the Canadian NOC
 - e. **Action item: Rob** will check whether all IAU applicants are already CASCA members, and will invite them if they are not.
6. Approval of Michael Balogh as CASCA rep to TMT Board
 - a. If approved, someone else has to be CATAC rep; replacement names were suggested.
 - b. Motion to approve Michael Balogh as the CASCA rep to TMT Board
 - i. Moved by Sarah; seconded by Maria; approved.
7. Overview of action items' revamp

- a. Old action item tracking spreadsheet needs updating; in-depth discussion of suitability of new spreadsheet using example transfers of particular action items; action items will be greyed out on the old spreadsheet once they have been transferred to the new spreadsheet
 - b. AGM action items: only those relevant to the Board need to be included
 - c. Hybrid/virtual meetings:
 - i. Committees advise the Board but it's ultimately the Board that is drafting the motion (for voting at the 2024 AGM). The drafts can be shared back with the committees for feedback as appropriate.
 - ii. Discussion about whether the 2025 should be default in person or hybrid/virtual. The sustainability committee are willing to organize a 2025 hybrid/virtual conference (with support from the postdoc and grad student committees).
 - d. Bylaws will need to be updated to allow for hybrid/virtual, too (but this motion on the new bylaw draft should be clearly decoupled from the motion for the proposal for hybrid/virtual AGMs).
 - i. Voting: should all voting be online (instead of in-person AGM only)? How do we do the scrutineering? Maybe need to have a lawyer check any changes.
 - e. Code of conduct, values/ethics, mission statements – drafts are a work in progress
 - f. Page charges: anticipate needing a lot more discussion with the community. Establish a task force on this, and host a townhall at the 2024 AGM to build a road map.
 - g. **Action item: Renée** to create a new category of action items for standing action items
 - h. **Action items: all** Board members to transfer their own action items
8. Adjourn
- a. Moved by Sarah; seconded by Maria; approved.

Next meeting: Tue 6th Feb, 3-4 pm