

ASSA AGM 2020 MINUTES

| DATE | 13 Aug 2020 | TIME | 18:30 to 22:00 | VENUE | Virtual via WebEx |
|------|-------------|------|----------------|-------|-------------------|
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Present

ASSA Council

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Bosman Olivier | Pretoria Centre Chair (AGM Host Chair) |
| Chris Stewart | President, Section Director Instrumentation |
| Case Rijdsdijk | Vice President, Chair – Garden Route Centre, Communications, Ed Board |
| Dr Pierre de Villiers | Council Member, Chair - Hermanus Centre |
| Dr Ian Glass | ASSET Trustee, ASSA Council Member |
| Dr Pieter Kotze | Council Member |
| Adv AJ Nel | Treasurer |
| Wilmi Nel | Membership Secretary |
| Lerika Cross | Secretary |
| Piet Straus | Durban Centre Chair |
| Carmel Ives | Johannesburg Centre Chair |
| Thinus van der Merwe | Bloemfontein Centre Representative |

ASSA Appointees

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Auke Slotegraaf | SGAS Editor |
| John Gill | Web Manager |
| Allen Versfeld | Citizen Science Section Director |
| Chris de Coning | ASSA Archivist |
| Dr Christian Hettlage | SAAO Website Liaison |
| Dave Blane | Double and Variable Stars Section Director |
| Douglas Bullis | Deep Sky Section Director, Nightfall |
| Martin Heigan | Imaging Section Director |
| Percy Jacobs | Photometry and Spectroscopy Section Director |
| Clyde Foster | Shallow Sky Section Director |

ASSA Members and Guest attendees:

Alison Coulter, Andre van Staden, Andy Overbeek, Carol Botha, Cor Rademeyer, Derek Duckitt, Edward Foster, Etsuo Takayanagi, Gert Claasen, Giulia Barr, Jose da Silva, Magda Streicher, Michael Pote, Mick Fynn, Neville Young, Peter Cramb

Apologies

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Tim Cooper | ASSET Trustee |
| Marius Reitz | Cape Centre, Chair |
| Bruce Dickson | Cosmology and Astrophysics |
| Kos Coronaios | Observing and Outreach Sections Director |
| Dr Claire Flanagan | Convenor of Scholarships |

Distribution:

The minutes and supporting documentation will be placed on the ASSA website page <https://assa.sao.ac.za/about/council-and-officers/agm-reports/>

Notification will be sent to the ASSA-Info and -Announce mail lists once the minutes and reports and presentations are uploaded to the web site page.

ASSA AGM 2020 MINUTES

| | Agenda Points | Discussions / Decisions / Actions |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Welcome | <p>Bosman Olivier, Pretoria Centre Chair, who fulfilled the role of ASSA Centre host and Chairman for the AGM, welcomed everyone in attendance at 18:30 and opened the WebEx virtual AGM meeting.</p> <p>He explained the 2 breaks included in the agenda which were created to accommodate the WebEx session length limitation and the process to be followed, i.e., everyone are to just re-enter the meeting using the given link.</p> <p>Apologies received are recorded in these minutes.</p> |
| 2 | Minutes | <p>The minutes of the previous AGM meeting held on 7 August 2019 were accepted with one amendment: Dr Pierre de Villiers was noted as President in the minutes and not Vice President. The revised minutes will be updated on the website. (Proposed by Case Rijdsdijk, Seconded by Chris Stewart)</p> |
| 3 | Report on Council | <p>3. President's Report on Council The ASSA President, Chris Stewart, presented his Report on Council which are available on the website (refer to the link and files at the end of these minutes).</p> <p>His report included highlights from the ASSA Appointee and Director Reports.</p> <p>He noted that in term of ASSA Scholarships, ASSA currently administers two scholarships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASSA Scholarship – for studies in astronomy, 2nd to 4th year; and - Cooke Scholarship – for studies in astronomy from 2nd year on. <p>Both scholarships are currently worth R20 000 and both were awarded. Due to the current poor performance of invested funds, the 2021 scholarships are suspended.</p> <p>The President's Report was accepted. (Proposed by Case Rijdsdijk, Seconded by Auke Slotegraaf).</p> |
| 4 | ASSET | <p>4. ASSA Endowment Trust Chris Stewart noted that Tim Cooper provided a report for the year on behalf of the ASSET Trustees, i.e., Dr Ian Glass, Peter Cramb, Tim Cooper, and the report is available on the website.</p> |
| 5 | Financial Report | <p>5. Financial Report 2019 20 The report for the 2019 20 was presented by Adv AJ Nel and a summary will be placed on the website. Income and expenditure statement (for last two years) and summary for 2020 were provided. Current Country Member total was noted as 127 compared to 142 last year. The new membership fee was proposed as R85. Entry fee will remain at R50.</p> <p>The Financial Report was accepted. (Proposed by Dr Pierre de Villiers, Seconded by Case Rijdsdijk).</p> |
| 6 | Independent Compiler Appointment | <p>6. Independent Compiler Not covered at the meeting. The ASSA to note: Ronnie Glass of Chartac Advisory Services Pty Ltd stepped down wef the 2019</p> |

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| | | <p>financial year as ASSA's Independent Compiler. He has acted for ASSA since the end of the 1970's and worked with 7 ASSA Treasurers.</p> <p>Peter Carlisle of CTFS indicated he would be willing to take on the task of Independent Compiler for ASSA. His Auditing business is independent of the normal bookkeeping and tax work done by CTF services for the ASSA.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Office Bearers 2020 21 | <p>7. ASSA Office Bearers 2020/ 21</p> <p>7.1 Chris Stewart presented the <u>Council Members</u> for the coming year.</p> <p>He extended a special welcome to Thinus van der Merwe as Bloemfontein Chair, Marius Reitz as Cape Centre Chair and Carmel Ives as Johannesburg Chair.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 703 1417 1644"> <thead> <tr> <th>Role</th> <th>Council 20 21</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>President</td><td>Chris Stewart</td></tr> <tr><td>Vice President</td><td>Case Rijdsijk</td></tr> <tr><td>Treasurer</td><td>AJ Nel</td></tr> <tr><td>Membership Secretary</td><td>Wilmi Nel</td></tr> <tr><td>Secretary</td><td>Lerika Cross</td></tr> <tr><td>Council member</td><td>Dr Pierre de Villiers</td></tr> <tr><td>Council Member</td><td>Dr Pieter Kotze</td></tr> <tr><td>Council Member</td><td>Dr Ian Glass</td></tr> <tr><td>Council Member</td><td>Clyde Foster</td></tr> <tr><td>Bloemfontein Chair</td><td>Thinus van der Merwe</td></tr> <tr><td>Cape Chair</td><td>Marius Reitz</td></tr> <tr><td>Durban Chair</td><td>Piet Strauss</td></tr> <tr><td>Garden Route Chair</td><td>Case Rijdsijk</td></tr> <tr><td>Johannesburg Chair</td><td>Carmel Ives</td></tr> <tr><td>Pretoria Chair</td><td>Bosman Olivier</td></tr> <tr><td>Hermanus Chair</td><td>Dr Pierre de Villiers</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>7.2 <u>ASSA Council Appointees'</u> positions for the 2020 21 year were presented: Chris Stewart noted that the current Appointees are still willing to remain in their roles and expressed his gratitude to everyone for their tireless efforts in support of the ASSA.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1865 1406 2107"> <thead> <tr> <th>Role reporting into Council</th> <th>Appointees</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Convener of Scholarships</td><td>Dr Claire Flanagan</td></tr> <tr><td>Web Manager</td><td>John Gill</td></tr> <tr><td>ASSA Observing Director</td><td>Kos Coronaios</td></tr> </tbody> </table> | Role | Council 20 21 | President | Chris Stewart | Vice President | Case Rijdsijk | Treasurer | AJ Nel | Membership Secretary | Wilmi Nel | Secretary | Lerika Cross | Council member | Dr Pierre de Villiers | Council Member | Dr Pieter Kotze | Council Member | Dr Ian Glass | Council Member | Clyde Foster | Bloemfontein Chair | Thinus van der Merwe | Cape Chair | Marius Reitz | Durban Chair | Piet Strauss | Garden Route Chair | Case Rijdsijk | Johannesburg Chair | Carmel Ives | Pretoria Chair | Bosman Olivier | Hermanus Chair | Dr Pierre de Villiers | Role reporting into Council | Appointees | Convener of Scholarships | Dr Claire Flanagan | Web Manager | John Gill | ASSA Observing Director | Kos Coronaios |
| Role | Council 20 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| President | Chris Stewart | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vice President | Case Rijdsijk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Treasurer | AJ Nel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Membership Secretary | Wilmi Nel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secretary | Lerika Cross | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Council member | Dr Pierre de Villiers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Council Member | Dr Pieter Kotze | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Council Member | Dr Ian Glass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Council Member | Clyde Foster | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bloemfontein Chair | Thinus van der Merwe | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cape Chair | Marius Reitz | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Durban Chair | Piet Strauss | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Garden Route Chair | Case Rijdsijk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Johannesburg Chair | Carmel Ives | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pretoria Chair | Bosman Olivier | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hermanus Chair | Dr Pierre de Villiers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Role reporting into Council | Appointees | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Convener of Scholarships | Dr Claire Flanagan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Web Manager | John Gill | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ASSA Observing Director | Kos Coronaios | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | ASSA Communications Director | Case Rijdsdijk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ASSA Outreach Director | Kos Coronaios | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ASSA Archivist | Chris de Coning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | SAAO Liaison for Website | Dr Christian Hettlage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;">Sections (Groups)</th> <th>Directors</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A - Shallow Sky: Asteroid, Meteors, Comets, Lunar, Occultations, Planetary, Satellites, Solar</td> <td>Clyde Foster</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B1: Deep Sky</td> <td>Douglas Bullis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B2: Double and Variable Stars Section</td> <td>Dave Blane</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C: Photometry, Spectroscopy</td> <td>Percy Jacobs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D: Cosmology and Astrophysics</td> <td>Bruce Dickson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E: Southern African Astronomy History</td> <td>Chris de Coning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F: Possible vacancy for a Dark Sky Section</td> <td>In abeyance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G: Imaging Section</td> <td>Martin Heigan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H: Instrumentation: including ATM</td> <td>Chris Stewart</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I: Citizen Science</td> <td>Allen Versfeld</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Sections (Groups) | Directors | A - Shallow Sky: Asteroid, Meteors, Comets, Lunar, Occultations, Planetary, Satellites, Solar | Clyde Foster | B1: Deep Sky | Douglas Bullis | B2: Double and Variable Stars Section | Dave Blane | C: Photometry, Spectroscopy | Percy Jacobs | D: Cosmology and Astrophysics | Bruce Dickson | E: Southern African Astronomy History | Chris de Coning | F: Possible vacancy for a Dark Sky Section | In abeyance | G: Imaging Section | Martin Heigan | H: Instrumentation: including ATM | Chris Stewart | I: Citizen Science | Allen Versfeld |
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| E: Southern African Astronomy History | Chris de Coning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F: Possible vacancy for a Dark Sky Section | In abeyance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| G: Imaging Section | Martin Heigan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H: Instrumentation: including ATM | Chris Stewart | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I: Citizen Science | Allen Versfeld | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7.3 For information: <u>The Editorial Board and Scholarship Committee:</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Editorial Board</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MNASSA - Editor</td> <td>Case Rijdsdijk</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MNASSA Assistant Editor/Layout Editor</td> <td>Dr Ian Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MNASSA Assistant Layout Editor</td> <td>Willie Koorts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sky Guide – Editor</td> <td>Auke Slotegraaf</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nightfall - Editor</td> <td>Douglas Bullis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book Review Editor</td> <td>Maciej Soltynski</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Webmaster</td> <td>John Gill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Professional Astronomer</td> <td>Em. Prof Brian Warner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Professional Astronomer</td> <td>Dr Ian Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Professional Astronomer</td> <td>Dr Vanessa McBride OAD/UCT/SAAO</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Editorial Board | | MNASSA - Editor | Case Rijdsdijk | MNASSA Assistant Editor/Layout Editor | Dr Ian Glass | MNASSA Assistant Layout Editor | Willie Koorts | Sky Guide – Editor | Auke Slotegraaf | Nightfall - Editor | Douglas Bullis | Book Review Editor | Maciej Soltynski | Webmaster | John Gill | Professional Astronomer | Em. Prof Brian Warner | Professional Astronomer | Dr Ian Glass | Professional Astronomer | Dr Vanessa McBride OAD/UCT/SAAO |
| Editorial Board | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MNASSA - Editor | Case Rijdsdijk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MNASSA Assistant Editor/Layout Editor | Dr Ian Glass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MNASSA Assistant Layout Editor | Willie Koorts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sky Guide – Editor | Auke Slotegraaf | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nightfall - Editor | Douglas Bullis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Book Review Editor | Maciej Soltynski | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Webmaster | John Gill | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Professional Astronomer | Em. Prof Brian Warner | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Professional Astronomer | Dr Ian Glass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Professional Astronomer | Dr Vanessa McBride OAD/UCT/SAAO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Scholarships Committee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Scholarships Committee | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | Dr Claire Flanagan | Scholarship Convenor |
| | | Dr Ian Glass | Retired Professional Astronomer |
| | | Sivuyile Manxoyi | EUNAWE, SAAO outreach |
| | | Maciej Soltynski | Previous Scholarship Convenor |
| | | Dr Vanessa McBride | IAU-Office of Astronomy for Development |
| 8 | Awards | <p>8. ASSA Awards The ASSA Awards Committee comprises the ASSA President and Vice Presidents and the Committee decided on the following awards, announced by Chris Stewart.</p> <p>8.1 Director’s Awards C Stewart announced Director Awards to:</p> <p><u>Rodney Hyman</u> for long-term support to the ASSA in particular to the Amateur Telescope Making fraternity. ScopeX and 26.5” refractor at Johannesburg Observatory</p> <p><u>José da Silva</u> Director’s Observing Commendation for his international collaboration in the search for habitable exoplanets and co-authoring a paper on transit timing variation of exoplanet WASP-4b.</p> <p>8.2 Overbeek Medal Awards C Stewart announced the Overbeek Medal Awards:</p> <p><u>Overbeek Medal 2020 Magda Streicher</u> For a long-term DSO observing program recorded by means of detailed sketches and observation notes, published in several media.</p> <p><u>Overbeek Medal 2021 Clyde Foster</u> For high-quality planetary imaging in support of various Pro-Am scientific research programs.</p> <p>8.3 President’s Award After the meeting: The ASSA Awards Committee agreed to honour Ronnie Glass – who stepped down as ASSA’s Independent Compiler at the end of the 2019 year – with a President’s Award in gratitude for all the years’ of auditing ASSA financials working with seven ASSA Treasurers.</p> | |
| 9 | Presentation | <p>9. Presentation A presentation by Clyde Foster, Section Director – Shallow Sky on his recent find on Jupiter which achieved international acclaim and named “Clyde’s Spot”.</p> <p>The presentation is available to download from the website and enjoy a high-quality experience of “Clyde’s Spot - An amateur astronomer’s contribution in today’s world of Planetary Science”.</p> | |
| 10 | Closure | In closure of the AGM, Chris Stewart extended a gracious thank you to: | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bosman Olivier for hosting the AGM and all the preparations for the first ASSA virtual AGM; - All attendees to the AGM. <p>The meeting closed at 20:00</p> |
| 15 | Next Council meeting | The meetings will be confirmed in due course. |

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

Attachments: on the ASSA website: <https://assa.saa.ac.za/about/council-and-officers/agm-reports/>

1. Presidential Report by Chris Stewart
2. Communication and Editorial Board Report: Case Rijdsdijk
3. Deep Sky Section: Douglas Bullis
4. Observing and Outreach: Kos Coronaios
5. Historical Section: Chris de Coning
6. Shallow Sky: Clyde Foster
7. Double Star and Variable Star Section: Dave Blane
8. Imaging / Astrophotography: Martin Heigan
9. Citizen Science: Allen Versfeld
10. Instrumentation Section: Chris Stewart
11. Photometry, Spectroscopy: Percy Jacobs
12. Cosmology and Astrophysics: Bruce Dickson
13. WebManager Report: John Gill
14. ASSA Scholarship Convener report: Dr Claire Flanagan
15. Financial Report including Membership: Adv AJ Nel
16. ASSET Report
17. Clyde Foster's Presentation: "Clyde's Spot - An amateur astronomer's contribution in today's world of Planetary Science".