

ASSA AGM 2011/12 MINUTES

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DATE	1 August 2012	TIME	19:30 to 21:30	VENUE	SAAO Cape Town
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ATTENDANCE

Council

Present

	Role
Dr I Glass	President (Chair)
Adv AJ Nel	Treasurer
Chris Stewart	Council Member
Lerika Cross	Secretary
Pat Booth	Membership Secretary
Christian Hettlage	Web Master
Auke Slotegraaf	Sky Guide Editor
Maciej Soltynski	Council Member, Convenor of Scholarship Committee
John Richards	Vice Chair – Cape Centre

ASSA Cape Centre Members

Joe Coelho, Richard Jones, Kechil Kirkham, Richard Ford, Chris Forder, Peter Cramb, Schoenel Cerf, Chris Echard, Karen Koch, Cliff Turk, Keith Gottschalk, Tony Jones, Carol Botha, Heather Sessions, Richard Sessions, Bernard Wagener

Apologies (a) and not present

Matie Hoffman (a)	Vice President and Chair – Bloemfontein Centre
Logan Govender (a)	Chair - Durban Centre
Case Rijdsdijk (a)	Chair - Garden Route Centre, MNASSA Editor
Johan Smit (a)	Chair – ASSA Pretoria Centre
John Saunders (a)	Chair - Hermanus Centre
Gary Els (a)	Chair – ASSA Johannesburg Centre
Chris de Coning (a)	Section Director – Historical Section

Apologies from Cape Centre: Edward Foster, Lynette Foster, Lia Labuschagne

	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
1	Welcome	M Soltynski fulfilled the role of Master of Ceremonies for the AGM and he welcomed everyone, opened the meeting and thanked the Cape Centre for their hospitality in hosting the AGM. Apologies received are recorded in these minutes.
2	Minutes /Matters arising	The minutes of the previous AGM meeting held on 3 August 2011 were accepted without amendments. No matters arising from previous AGM meeting were noted for discussion at the AGM.
3	Report on Council 2011/ 12	Report on Council 3.1 Dr I Glass presented his Report on Council. All reports will be placed on the website http://assa.saa.ac.za/ and in MNASSA. 3.2 Dr Glass responded to a query about the inclusion of Hermanus Centre in the total membership and advised that this number will be included in the final report.
4	Reports on Observing Sections	Reports from the Observing Section Directors 4.1 The Comet and Meteor Section Report received from T Cooper was read by C Stewart. 4.2 The Deep Sky Section Report was read by the Director, A Slotegraaf. 4.3 The Double Star Section Report received from D Blane was read by C Stewart. 4.4 The Occultation Sections (Lunar, grazing & planetary) Report received from B Fraser was read by C Stewart. 4.5 The Solar Section Report received from J Retief was read by C Stewart 4.6 The Variable Star Section Report received from C Middleton was read by C Stewart. 4.7 The Cosmology Section Report received from J de Bruyn was read by C Stewart.
5	Other Section	5.1 The Dark Sky Section Report: no report was received from J Smit. 5.2. Education & Public Communication Section Report received from C Rijdsdijk was read by

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	Reports	C Stewart. 5.3 The Historical Section received from C de Coning was read by C Stewart.																																					
6	Scholarships Report	6.1 The ASSA Scholarships Convenor Report was read by the Scholarship Convenor, M Soltynski.																																					
7	Financial Report	<p>7.1 AJ Nel presented the 2011 /12 Financial Report. Key points made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Society will early in the 2012/2013 financial year become a registered non-profit organisation and will be required to conform more actively to its aim of distributing bursaries. In this regard it is foreseen that approximately fifty percent of the funds in the current business account as well as all the funds in the two investment accounts be transferred to a central investment account and that the annual interest earned with the said funds be used to settle the bursaries; • It is further foreseen that auditing (an ongoing problem) will be brought up to date during the 2012/2013 year, specifically as only the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 years are still to be audited; • The Society is currently financially strong and stable with ample reserves. <p>The financial report was accepted with no key questions.</p>																																					
8	Election of Auditor	8.1 The meeting supported Adv AJ Nel offer to contact the current auditor, Ronnie Glass, to ask if he will be prepared to be continue as ASSA Auditor.																																					
9	Election of Office Bearers 2012/13	<p>Election of Office Bearers 2012/13</p> <p>9.1 The meeting was advised that there was no need for voting for the positions of Council Members without portfolio; there were three nominations but as C Rijdsdijk was the GRASSA Chair for the year, M Soltynski and C Stewart would be the Council Members without portfolio on Council. The nominees for council were:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 1205 1417 1453"> <thead> <tr> <th>Nominee</th> <th>Nominated by</th> <th>Seconded by</th> <th>Accepted by Nominee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Case Rijdsdijk</td> <td>Chris Stewart</td> <td>Percy Jacobs</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chris Stewart</td> <td>Johan Smit</td> <td>Percy Jacobs</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maciej Soltynski</td> <td>Case Rijdsdijk</td> <td>Dr Ian Glass</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>9.2 These Council positions would remain for the next year – as per the Constitution - except for the Centre Chairs would who be elected at the Centre AGMs:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 1594 1423 2074"> <thead> <tr> <th>Title</th> <th>Council Members 2011/12</th> <th>Council Members 2012/13</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Dr Ian Glass</td> <td>Dr Ian Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice President</td> <td>Matie Hoffman</td> <td>Matie Hoffman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Adv AJ Nel</td> <td>Adv AJ Nel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Lerika Cross</td> <td>Lerika Cross</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Member without portfolio</td> <td>Maciej Soltynski Chris Stewart</td> <td>Maciej Soltynski Chris Stewart</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership Secretary</td> <td>Pat Booth</td> <td>Pat Booth</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by	Accepted by Nominee	Case Rijdsdijk	Chris Stewart	Percy Jacobs	Yes	Chris Stewart	Johan Smit	Percy Jacobs	Yes	Maciej Soltynski	Case Rijdsdijk	Dr Ian Glass	Yes	Title	Council Members 2011/12	Council Members 2012/13	President	Dr Ian Glass	Dr Ian Glass	Vice President	Matie Hoffman	Matie Hoffman	Treasurer	Adv AJ Nel	Adv AJ Nel	Secretary	Lerika Cross	Lerika Cross	Member without portfolio	Maciej Soltynski Chris Stewart	Maciej Soltynski Chris Stewart	Membership Secretary	Pat Booth	Pat Booth
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10	ASSA Awards 2011/ 2012	<p>9.2 The awards by the Sections Directors for the year were announced by A Slotegraaf (Deep Sky Section) and by Dr I Glass. The awards are:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deep Sky Section – Section Director Auke Slotegraaf</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 344 1481 869"> <thead> <tr> <th>Person</th> <th>Award Heading</th> <th>Award description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Richard Ford</td> <td>General Observer’s Certificate</td> <td>for deep sky observations submitted to the Section during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrie van der Linde</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations submitted to the Section during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George Dehlen</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Louis Kloke</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Percy Jacobs</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Thompson</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pat Kühn</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Michael Poll</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andre de la Ponte</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Craig Kloke</td> <td>Merit Award</td> <td>for deep sky observations made during 2012</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Cosmology Section - 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10	Outlook 2012/13	<p>10.1 M Soltynski called upon the Secretary to cover some key items that the Council will focus on for the coming year and L Cross covered these items:</p>																																																																											

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Finalise the follow-on changes to the ASSA Constitution2. Finalise and implement changes to the ASSA Website3. Review and assess changes needed in terms of the role of the Section Directors4. How to use ASSA (and perhaps ASSET) funds to benefit the Society5. Assess what ASSA Council can enable or facilitate to add value to the ASSA Centres and ASSA members in general
11	Any other business	As no other business was raised, M Soltynski closed the formal part of the meeting and thanked the Cape Centre again for the hospitality.
12	Presidential Address	Dr I Glass presented his a researched and very well received presentation: "40 years of Infrared Astronomy".
	Closure	Dr I Glass thanked everyone again for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.30

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

Chair: Dr I Glass