

DATE	6 Aug 2014	TIME	19:30 to 21:45	VENUE	Johannesburg Observatory
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ATTENDANCE

Present

Role

Matie Hoffman	ASSA President
Jerome Jooste	Chair – Johannesburg Centre (Meeting Host)
Adv AJ Nel	Hon Treasurer
Lerika Cross	Hon Secretary
Chris Stewart	Council Member
Bosman Olivier	Chair – Pretoria Centre
Johan Smit	Section Director – Dark Sky
Allen Versfeld	Section Director – Imaging
Gary Els	ASSA Johannesburg Centre
Melvin Hannibal	ASSA Johannesburg Centre
Alec Jamieson	ASSA Johannesburg Centre
Gil Stewart	ASSA Johannesburg Centre
Pat Kuhn	ASSA Pretoria Centre
Percy Jacobs	ASSA Pretoria Centre

2 members from the Johannesburg and Pretoria Centres whose names were not visible on the attendance register.

Apologies

Dr I Glass	Outgoing Vice President
Pierre de Villiers	Chair - Hermanus Centre
Case Rijdsdijk	Chair - Garden Route Centre, MNASSA Editor, ASSA Communications Officer
Maciej Soltynski	Council Member, Convenor of Scholarships
Christian Hettlage	Web Master
Peter Dormehl	Chair - Durban Centre
Auke Slotegraaf	Sky Guide Editor, Section Director Deep Sky
Kos Coronaios	ASSA Observing Director

	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
1	Welcome	J Jooste, the ASSA Centre Chair, who fulfilled the role of host and Master of Ceremonies for the AGM welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. Apologies received are recorded in these minutes.
2	Minutes /Matters arising	The minutes of the previous AGM meeting held on 7 August 2013 were accepted without amendments. There were no matters arising from previous AGM meeting.
3	Report on Council 2013/14	Report on Council The ASSA President, Prof M Hoffman presented his Report on Council. NOTE: All reports will be placed on the website http://assa.sao.ac.za/ and in MNASSA
4	ASSA Director Reports	Reports received from the ASSA Directors 4.1 The reports that were received from ASSA Directors were tabled and read and accepted by the meeting: a) The Shallow Sky Section Report was read by the Director, D Blane. b) The Deep Sky Section Report received from the Director, A Slotegraaf was read by D Blane. c) The Imaging Section Report was read by the Director, A Versfeld.

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		<p>d) The Cosmology Section Report received from J de Bruyn was read by C Stewart. e) The Historical Section report received from C de Coning was read by C Stewart. f) The Instrumentation Section Report was read by the Director, C Stewart. g) The Dark Sky Section Report was read by the Director, J Smit. h) The Observing Report received from the Director K Coroanios was read by J Smit. i) The Outreach Report was read by the Director, J Smit.</p> <p>4.2 A Jamieson raised one question: why is the Shallow Sky Section called by that name and not perhaps Solar System Section. After some discussion, it was agreed that L Cross will solicit input from the team who proposed the name and will then respond to A Jamieson. This was communicated to A Jamieson after the meeting:</p> <p>Why Shallow Sky Section and not Solar System: Shallow sky is a well-established term.</p> <p>Wikipedia definition: <i>Shallow sky</i> is a term sometimes used by amateur astronomers, as the opposite to deep sky. The shallow sky is space within our solar system, plus our own atmosphere. Sky phenomena such as planetary conjunctions, solar eclipses, lunar eclipses, as well as atmospheric phenomena like haloes, rainbows, and noctilucent clouds, are all occurring in the shallow sky.</p> <p>ASSA used to have a whole slew of items, such as double stars, occultations, solar, etc., and rationalized them into two broad categories because there was a drop-off in participation in some observing sections so some consolidation was in order.</p> <p>“Shallow sky” was chosen in part because astronomers are also very much interested in weather and atmospheric effects, which they tend to notice and which affect their other observing. Shallow sky includes all this, as well as man-made satellites and probes and their environs, and has been in common use for at least since the early 1980s. It is an obvious antonym to Deep Sky.</p>
5	Scholarships Report	<p>ASSA Scholarships 5.1 The ASSA Convenor of Scholarships Report received by the Scholarship Convenor, M Soltynski was read by B Olivier.</p>
6	Financial Report	<p>Financial Reports 2012/13 AJ Nel presented the 2013 /14 Financial Report .</p>
7	ASSET	<p>ASSA Endowment Trust Report 7.1 T Cooper, the nominated representative to Council of the ASSA Endowment Trust, presented the report from ASSET.</p>
8	Election of Auditor	<p>ASSA Auditor 8.1 L Cross advised the meeting that the current auditor, Ronnie Glass, was contacted to ask if he will be prepared to be continue as ASSA Auditor and that Ronnie Glass agreed to continue.</p>
9	Office Bearers 2014/15	<p>Election of Office Bearers 2014/15 9.1 The meeting was advised that there was no need for voting for the positions of Council. The Treasurer and Secretary have agreed to continue their roles on Council but confirmation must still be received from P Booth, the Membership Secretary, that she will be available to continue in the role. Two nominations for Council Members</p>

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	<p>were received and accepted by the nominees and by Council at its meeting of 14 July 2014: Chris Stewart and Maciej Soltynski.</p> <p>9.2 The Council positions for the 2013/14 year were presented as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 394 1417 1453"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="395 394 903 456">Title</th> <th data-bbox="903 394 1417 456">Council Members 2014/15</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 456 903 510">President</td> <td data-bbox="903 456 1417 510">Prof Matie Hoffman</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 510 903 564">Vice President</td> <td data-bbox="903 510 1417 564">Pierre de Villiers</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 564 903 618">Outgoing Vice President</td> <td data-bbox="903 564 1417 618">Dr Ian Glass</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 618 903 672">Treasurer</td> <td data-bbox="903 618 1417 672">Adv AJ Nel</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 672 903 725">Secretary</td> <td data-bbox="903 672 1417 725">Lerika Cross</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 725 903 869">Membership Secretary</td> <td data-bbox="903 725 1417 869">Vacancy – to be handled by AJ Nel supported by L Cross until replacement can be found</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 869 903 922">Council Member</td> <td data-bbox="903 869 1417 922">Chris Stewart</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 922 903 976">Council Member</td> <td data-bbox="903 922 1417 976">Maciej Soltynski</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 976 903 1030">Cape Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 976 1417 1030">Frank Jacobs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1030 903 1084">Durban Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1030 1417 1084">Peter Dormehl</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1084 903 1137">Garden Route Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1084 1417 1137">Case Rijdsijk</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1137 903 1191">Johannesburg Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1137 1417 1191">Jerome Jooste</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1191 903 1245">Pretoria Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1191 1417 1245">Bosman Olivier</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1245 903 1299">Hermanus Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1245 1417 1299">Pierre de Villiers</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1299 903 1453">Bloemfontein Chair</td> <td data-bbox="903 1299 1417 1453">AGM results not yet known</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title	Council Members 2014/15	President	Prof Matie Hoffman	Vice President	Pierre de Villiers	Outgoing Vice President	Dr Ian Glass	Treasurer	Adv AJ Nel	Secretary	Lerika Cross	Membership Secretary	Vacancy – to be handled by AJ Nel supported by L Cross until replacement can be found	Council Member	Chris Stewart	Council Member	Maciej Soltynski	Cape Chair	Frank Jacobs	Durban Chair	Peter Dormehl	Garden Route Chair	Case Rijdsijk	Johannesburg Chair	Jerome Jooste	Pretoria Chair	Bosman Olivier	Hermanus Chair	Pierre de Villiers	Bloemfontein Chair	AGM results not yet known
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10	<p>ASSA Council Awards</p> <p>10.1 The President, Prof Matie Hoffman presented the 2013/14 ASSA Awards. The motivations in support of the awards are appended to his Presidents Report.</p> <p>10.2 Awards and citations:</p> <p><u>McIntyre Award to Dr Ian Glass</u> <i>Upon the recommendation of this Society Dr Ian Glass has been awarded a McIntyre Award for his publication, Nicolas-Louis de La Caille - Astronomer and Geodesist, which meets the criteria for academic standard, originality and literary presentation</i></p> <p><u>Merit Award to Auke Slotegraaf</u> <i>Upon the recommendation of this Society Auke Slotegraaf has been awarded a Merit Award for his sterling contribution to the modernisation of the ASSA website, as well as establishing the new ASSA communication channels, whilst maintaining his normal high standard as Deep Sky Section Director</i></p> <p><u>Long Service Award to Maciej Soltynski</u> <i>Upon the recommendation of this Society Maciej Soltynski has been awarded a</i></p>																																

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		<p><i>Long Service Award in appreciation for his many valuable contributions made to furthering ASSA interests over 25 years</i></p> <p><u>President's Award to Chris Stewart</u> <i>Upon the recommendation of this Society Chris Stewart has been awarded a President's Award for his contribution to the art of telescope making in South Africa for a period of 20 years</i></p> <p>10.3 ASSA Director awards and commendations are recorded in the Director reports and also on the website</p>
11	Any other business	As no other business was raised, J Jooste closed the formal part of the meeting.
12	Presidential Address	Prof Matie Hoffman presented his presidential address.
13	Next Council meeting	Preliminary date: 22 September 2014 19:130 via Skype
14	Closure	<p>J Jooste extended a gracious thank you to Prof Matie Hoffman for his Presidential Address. And thanked everyone for their attendance and wished them well. Prof Matie Hoffman thanked Johannesburg Centre again for their hospitality.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:45</p>

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

For ASSA Council, Prof M Hoffman _____

Attachments:

Report on Council – not yet available

Financial Report

Reports received from ASSA Directors:

- Shallow Sky (Dave Blane)
- Deep Sky Section (Auke Slotegraaf)
- Imaging (Allan Versfeld)
- Cosmology (Frikkie de Bruyn)
- SA Astronomy History (Chris de Coning)
- Instrumentation (Chris Stewart)
- Dark Sky (Johan Smit)
- Observing (Kos Coronaios)
- Outreach (Johan Smit)

ASSA Scholarships (Maciej Soltynski)

ASSET Report (Tim Cooper)