



<p><i>ASTRONET Board meeting 2016-I</i> <i>9 Dec 2016, ESO Headquarters</i></p>
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Attendance

Conny Aerts (Belgium, FWO)
 Rob Ivison (ESO)
 Saskia Matheussen (The Netherlands, NWO)
 Denis Mourard (France, CNRS)
 Ronald Stark (The Netherlands, NWO)
 Luca Valenziano (Italy, INAF - telecom)
 Colin Vincent (United Kingdom, STFC)

Agenda

Time	Duration	Item
09:00	00:05	Adoption of agenda and initial chairperson
09:05	00:15	Summary of situation
09:20	00:15	Election of the chair, decision for a deputy-chair
09:35	00:45	Call for membership: process and schedule; discussion of the fees' collection process
10:20	00:20	<i>coffee break</i>
10:40	00:45	Discussion on the initial work plan, brainstorming on coming actions
11:25	00:10	Nomination of the executive committee
11:35	00:10	Nomination of the executive secretary
11:45	00:15	Appointment of ASTRONET representatives
12:00	00:15	Appointment of invitees to the Board
12:15	00:10	Summary of meeting, actions list
12:25	00:05	Next Board meeting
12:30		End of meeting

Summary of decisions

1. Ronald Stark is nominated as the new chair of the Board, Colin Vincent as vice-chair.
2. It is noted that for CNRS, starting on 1 Jan 2017, the representation will be done by Guy Perrin, new deputy director for Astronomy and Astrophysics at CNRS/INSU. DM will continue his activity of ASTRONET coordinator and CNRS/INSU is in the process of hiring a new European Support Engineer who will dedicate 50% of his/her time to ASTRONET. Moreover Elisabeth Kohler (CNRS/INSU), not present today, will continue her role as expert of the European action inside ASTRONET.
3. It is noted that ESO actions in ASTRONET will be also supported by Andrew Williams.
4. On the basis of the signed MoU, now distributed among the 6 partners, NWO is ready to prepare and send invoices for the fees' collection. It is decided that the contribution will start on 1 Jan 2017.
5. The chair will send an invitation letter to all the potential partners for joining ASTRONET via the Accession process described in the MoU. ASTRONET considers it possible to have more than one partner per country, it is however mandatory to have a national representation authority to join the Board. The invitation letter will also encourage the new partners to take responsibilities on tasks by considering in kind contributions on top of the annual contribution. The deadline is fixed to 15 Mar 2017 with the goal of holding a Board telecom just after this deadline to take the appropriate decisions for the membership. A Board meeting will be organized by the end of March, beginning of April (doodle to be organized) with all the new partners with the goal of defining the priority tasks, a schedule and milestones.
6. As per their request, the chair of the Board will send an invitation letter to to ESA to participate to the Board activities as Observer.
7. It is decided to postpone the decision on the executive committee and executive secretary for the next Board Meeting when more partners will be around the table. An interim executive committee is the WP leaders identified so far: DM for WP1, SM for WP2 and CV for WP3 (see Work Plan in the MoU) + RS as chair of the Board.
8. The chair of the Board will officially invite Sofia Feltzing, new EAS Councillor, as EAS representative in the ASTRONET Board.
9. The chair of the Board will officially invite Professor Antonio Masiero from INFN Italy, the chair of APPEC starting on 1/1/2017, as APPEC representative in the ASTRONET board.
10. DM and RS will represent ASTRONET at the next EAS meeting in January 2017.
11. Discussion on the work plan
 - a. *Integrating new countries*
 - i. RI presented the ESO initiative for the development of a database of European institutes willing to contribute to astronomical instrumentation, including software and science support activities, in exchange of GTO and/or access to forefront science programs.
 - ii. CA highlighted on the importance of also working on the access issue for these new countries: how to involve them on forefront science programs, on archive data science.
 - iii. CV cited the example of science support through advices on time application (TNG community) in the TNA process.
 - iv. It is also recalled that these countries were very sensitive to common funds and that potential initiatives for sharing similar instrumentation on a network of existing telescopes for ground support have been discussed in ASTRONET2-WP3.
 - v. CV said that STFC is likely to provide some support for representatives to attend the EWASS forum organised by Jan Palous.

- b. *Astronomy Heritage*: LV will iterate with P. Vettolani who was the originator of this proposition.
- c. *ELTRC follow-up*: MINECO was supportive of this action in ASTRONET2 and Jesus Gallego was volunteered to pursue this in the new ASTRONET. A plan with goals and milestones will be required for a discussion at the Board level and decisions on priority actions.
- d. *HPC/ASL/VO and ASTERICS*: the action is on DM and SM via the Policy Forum of ASTERICS. The goal is to amplify the actions of DADDI and OBELICS work packages of ASTERICS towards the recommendation of the ASTRONET roadmap and especially within the framework of pushing towards multi wavelengths, multi messenger's astrophysics through common policy on Time Request, Evaluation, Time allocation, Observing Scheduling. Even if the goal of ASTERICS is for the new large infrastructure, there is already a need for coordination (EUCLID/LSST for example) on HPC and data centres.
- e. *Space/ground coordination*: it is important to separate the actions; ESO-ESA have their own interests in collaborating but ASTRONET should push through the needs of the community, the organisation of networks for ground supports ...
- f. *Radio astronomy*: the recommendations of the ERTRC report have not been fully distributed/commented and actions for implementing these recommendations are now required.
- g. *Optical interferometry*: ESO VLTI Project Scientist is in charge of preparing a roadmap for the VLTI (2017) and the link with the European Initiative for Interferometry (action of OPTICON) is done and important. ASTRONET is supporting that in the general framework of the infrastructure roadmap.
- h. *Science Vision and Infrastructure Roadmap*:
 - i. STFC will start organize things in 2017 with an intermediate milestone around the 2018 IAU GA. The link with the US Decadal Survey will have to be discussed and organized in more details.
 - ii. The post-Planck CMB activity (APPEC-ASTRONET 2015 and 2016 meetings) is one of supporting actions in preparation of the future SV+IR.
 - iii. The framework was discussed in which Gravitational Wave Astrophysics and its follow-up of the optical counterparts should find its place in ASTRONET in relation with the physics community.

12. Communication

- a. ASTRONET will continue the organization of meetings within the EWASS and invite all the European Project coordinators (Opticon, Radionet, Solarnet, Europlanet, AENES, Asterics...). Individual invitations could also be considered at the Board level depending on the agenda.
- b. ASTRONET will prepare a Newsletter (3-4 times per year) for communication and visibility purposes.
- c. A public announcement will be prepared soon with the news of the first Board meeting.