



SVENSKA NATIONALKOMMITTÉN FÖR ASTRONOMI

Protokoll från mötet av Svenska Kungliga Nationalkommittén för astronomi (NK; National Committee for Astronomy, NCA) inom Kungliga vetenskapsakademien (KVA)

Tid: 2023-10-30, 13:00-15-58.

Plats: KVA Stockholm; Online in Zoom.

Närvarande ledamöter: Elvire De Beck (ordförande, EDB, CTH), Oleg Kochukhov (viceordförande, OK, UU, via Zoom), Jouni Kainulainen (sekreterare, JK, CTH), Thomas Bensby (TB, LU), Henrik Hartman (HH, MU), Ulrike Heiter (UH, UU), David Hobbs (DH, LU, via Zoom), Cathy Horellou (CH, CTH, via Zoom), Karin Lind (KL, SU), Timothy Linden (TL, SU), Felix Ryde (FR, KTH), Gabriella Stenberg Wieser (GSW, IRF, via Zoom), Barbro Åsman (BÅ, SU, via Zoom), Göran Östlin (GÖ, SU).

Anmält förhinder: John Conway (JC, CTH).

Frånvarande: Jan-Erik Wahlund (JEW, UU), Jorrit Leenaarts (JL, SU).

Övriga närvarande: Michael Lindqvist (ML, CTH, agenda point 4).

[LU Lunds universitet, KTH Kungliga tekniska högskolan, UU Uppsala universitet, CTH Chalmers tekniska högskola, SU Stockholms universitet, IRF Institutet för rymdfysik, VR Vetenskapsrådet, RFI rådet för forskningens infrastrukturer, SAS Svenska Astronomiska Sällskapet, SNSA Swedish National Space Agency]

1. Meeting is opened

EDB opened the meeting at 13:00.

EDB welcomes the new member TL; TL is a university lecturer specializing in high energy astrophysics.

2. Approval of the meeting agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Accepting/adjusting minutes from the previous meeting (26th Jan 2023)

JK explains that the original notes of the previous meeting were lost in a computer theft. Short new notes were generated based on notes of the participants after the fact. The last version is to be circulated together with the minutes from this meeting.

4. Dark and Quiet Skies

13:10 ML enters the meeting (Zoom).

Michael Lindqvist gives a summary from IAU Symposium. ML represents Sweden in the Centre for the Protection of the Dark and Quiet Sky from Satellite Constellation Interference (CPS). ML introduces CPS and describes its functions and operations.

13:21: UH enters the meeting.

Discussion on the Swedish participation in and inputs to the Dark & Quiet Sky.

Discussion on the Swedish representation and role in the United Nations Committee of the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). ML noted that there is a national representation, but it remained unclear who that is; ML will check. NCA has not so far contacted COPUOS in any capacity.

Impact of satellites on different wavelengths, and the possibilities to affect planned satellite constellations, are discussed.

13:45: ML leaves (Zoom).

UH notes that in 2021, NCA has decided to write a letter to COPUOS. Note is made that this action was eventually not taken.

EDB brings up that the NCA has been contacted regarding “Targeted Stakeholder Consultation for EU Space Law”. The call has a deadline 2nd Nov. It is noted that an EAS/IAU high-level response exists; possibility to adjust and include Swedish needs is discussed. EDB has drafted and circulated a start.

Conclusion: Further drafting will be done and circulated by EDB (+GÖ?), to response to the request.

5. International Societies

EDB gives an update from IAU matters. New member suggestions gathered by 14th Nov. Invitation email will be sent by 21st Nov.

Office of Astronomy for Education (consists of bodies at IAU and MPIA) has requested NCA to nominate up to 5 members to national education team.

Conclusion: EDB asks Bengt Gustafsson and Roberg Cumming to suggest some names for this.

Discussion on IAU General Assembly 2024 presence. Members’ plans for participation are yet unclear. Decision on NCA representation is postponed to a later and email.

It is noted that IAU Code of Conduct has gone through update based on community input, including input from Sweden.

OK gives an update about EAS matters. NCA joined last year EAS as a national committee, to give members the membership for free. Report from the discussions on two EAS business meetings participated by OK (Jan 2023 and July 2023).

OK brings up the GDPR question from the past meetings. Clarification has been done that NCAs operate under the GDPR of KVA. International organizations like IAU are not covered by GDPR legislation and GDPR does not apply to their matters.

6. ESO

EDB brings up that Kirsten Kraiberg Knudsen (Chalmers) is leaving ESO/STC. Suggestions as replacement are provided. EDB gives a brief report from the ESO/User committee meeting

in April. Minutes are to be circulated; input/Feedback can be provided to EDB on this matter.

ESO is planning to switch to a 1-year proposal cycle within the next two years. There will also be a fast-track option, but how this will work is still to be defined. Input on this should be sent to Elvire, by April (Swedish representative in user committee).

Coffee break 30 min.

7. Swedish communication channel -- evaluation

EDB reminds that about a year ago, the new communication channel was established (each institute has one person assigned who can distribute emails to their own institutes). The list now exists. Discussion on who is included in the distribution lists. Discussion on what should be sent to the distribution lists.

EDB should ask JC if he has looked more into who can host common mailing list.

8. Astronomdagarna

TB gives an update on background work for organization. Tentative dates 3.-5.10.2024 (backup week after). Discussion on organizational practicalities.

Discussion on the name of the event Astronomdagarna vs. Astronomidagarna. Conclusion: the event name remains to be 'Astronomdagarna'.

9. AOB

EDB: The Finnish astronomical society has made contact regarding their national Astro meeting in May 2024 in Vaasa. Information circulated among Swedish institutes.

The Finnish astronomical society also suggests a possibly common event. Discussion on the first impressions.

Conclusion: EDB invites someone from the Finnish side to the next NCA meeting.

10. Next meeting

Zoom meeting early 2024; EDB shall poll the time. Request will be made for VR and SNSA for updates.

11. End of meeting

EDB ends the meeting at 15:58.

Vid protokollet:

Justerat:

Jouni Kainulainen (sekreterare)

Oleg Kochukhov (viceordförande)