IAA Commission IV Meeting

22 March 2011
Paris, France

AGENDA

1   Welcome

The distinguished chair of Comm 4, Amnon Ginati called the meeting to order at 10hrs. Members of Commission 4 and other attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

The agenda for the meeting was reviewed by the attendees and approved. An attendance list was circulated.

Attended by:

Name	email
Larry Paxton	larry.paxton@jhuapl.edu
David Kusnierkiewicz	david.kusnierkiewicz@jhuapl.edu
Moshe Guelman	aerglmn@aerodyne.technion.ac.il
Manola Romero	manola-romero@onera.fr
Amnon Ginati	amnon.ginati@esa.int
Annette Froehlich	Annette.froehlich@dlr.de
Rene Laufer	Rene_Laufer@baylor.edu
Charlotte Mathieu	charlotte.mathieu@esa.int
Xiang Zhou	zhouxiang@irsa.ac.cn
Klaus Schilling	schi@informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de
Tibor Balint	tibor.balint@jpl.nasa.gov
Jeng-Shing Chern	jschern@cc.hc.cust.edu.tw

2   Review of Minutes from October meeting in Prague

Amnon and the other members reviewed the content of the meeting minutes noted that the meeting minutes are supposed to be available on the IAA website. This was not yet the case at the time of the March meeting.

Comm 4 finds that the coordination of IAA Secretariat actions and Comm 4 function needs to be improved. Comm 4 repeats its previous recommendation that all due care be given to the process of approving a Study Group. All Study Group proposals need to be reviewed and approved by the Commission that they are assigned to. This review should be performed by electronically. The members present support these recommendations.

3   Study Group Activities

3.1 Overview

A brief overview of the activities and purpose of study groups was presented and the Chairman called for the Study Group reports to be summarized. We noted that the Study Group reports have been posted

on the web. The open study groups are S4.1, S4.5, S4.9 and a joint one with Comm 5 and Comm 1 (S5.9) with Comm 5 as the lead.

There was significant discussion of the need for the IAA to improve the distribution of Study Group results and reports.

What happens to the Study Group reports?

Comm 4 discussed a tiered approach to distribution:

    Online publication after review

    Special session on at least the results of the report and discussion

    Publish a synopsis in Acta Astronautica

    Distribution of the reports

The Comm 4 members noted that the audience of the reports is limited and the participation on the Study Groups is limited as well. Comm 4 recommends that more attention be paid to broadening the participation on the reports and Study Groups. Study Groups are an excellent mechanism for identifying future leaders of the IAA and its associated activities.

In addition it is important to broaden the appreciation for IAA activities within the IAA at large. The best place to do this is at the IAC meetings. Easy methods include:

Posters in high traffic areas at IAC and regional meetings advertising the Study Groups and Study Group meetings

An introduction to the purpose of the Study Groups and a simple to access interface to the Study Groups

Presentations in plenary or other appropriate venues of the Study Group conclusions.

It was noted that, generally, active Study Groups have closely allied sessions at regional and/or IAC meetings.

3.2 Status/Progress reports from SG chairpersons

SG 4.1 – Knowledge Management for Space Activities (J. Holm)
No status update.

SG 4.5 – Hitch-Hiking to the Moon (L. Alkalai, presented by R. Laufer)
Update on the study status was provided by Rene. The key ideas are that the purview of the Study Group has been broadened to include the "Hitchhiking to the Planets" topic suggested by Jaques Blamont, the outline has been fleshed out with leads for all areas identified, a working meeting is planned for the Berlin Small Sat meeting, and the final report will be delivered in Cape Town at the IAC.

SG 4.7 – Integrated Applications Services (A. Ginati)
Status comment by Fabrice Dennemont:

"The Study Group 4.7 is on hold and there are no Chairs or members since 2008.

We ask you to consider to cancel this Study Group during the next Commission 4 meeting and to make a new proposal on this subject later on."

Resolution: study group canceled.

Members of Comm 4 noted that there is considerable interest in the topic but without people to take the lead in the activity, the Study Group needs to be cancelled.

Amnon Ginati suggested a possible special session in 2013 at the Beijing IAC.

SG 4.8 – Space Systems Cross-Compatibility (M. D'Errico)
Jaime Esper is preparing the final version by April 2011

SG 4.9 - International Aerospace System for Monitoring of Global Geophysical Phenomena
Pending; Sergei was not attending the meeting

S.G 4.10 Distributed Space Missions for Earth System Monitoring
Deadline postponed to this year, authors assigned chapter by chapter; finalized by IAC, potential copyright issue

S.G. 4.11 Coordination and Cooperation for Global Environmental Impact
2nd workshop of the study group is planned for the end of August. European approach is different, it is service and user need on ground driven; workshop in Vienna; also epidemic spreading; signed agreement with Bremen University on climate change; high level meeting in China; platform building for monitoring; info will be on IAA site; experts travel / accommodation paid by China for summer workshop – information is available on the IAA website.

S.G. 4.13 Small Satellite Project For Cameroon & West Africa
Information pending

SG5.9 Policy and economic aspects of space weather (L. Paxton)
This activity is being lead by Comm 5 with con-chairs from Comm 1 and Comm 4.

Program Committee Activities

3.3 Overview

3.4 Space Summit Working Group status

There was a brief review of the Space Summit held in Washington, DC. 28 heads of space agencies attended the meeting. The results of 4 studies were discussed and information is available online. The purpose of the meetings held at the Space Summit was to get public input on the four topic areas. This was achieved.

Space weather: special session in Prague
Economic and social impact; special session was held in Prague

3.5 Status reports from PC chairpersons for Prague

Comm 4 is particularly concerned that the schedules for the various study groups and the Commission meetings are neither widely distributed nor readily available on either the IAC or IAA web sites. At times significantly conflicting information is published as to times and locations.

Comm 4 is also concerned that once again there is an overlap between sessions in theB4.4 and D5.2 tracks. We attempted to coordinate this with the program planners and had seen versions of the schedule where there were no conflicts.

Even though Comm 4 has the highest rated Symposia based on the established metrics (as reviewed during the Saturday IPC meeting), we are concerned that the long time between the review of papers (March) and the conference (October) leads to an increased likelihood that conflicts will arise that prevent presenters from attending. Since talks have been rejected rather than placed in a poster session it is hard to make good use of the time.

The Small Satellite Program Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, mtg room 3, at 13:15 hrs. The committee and Commission 4 members were heavily involved in the first Nanosat Exhibit at IAF booth d2

The session chairs are satisfied with the number of talks uploaded. There are 15 session slots devoted to Comm 4 activities.

IAC 2011 Status

Commission 4 is concerned that there appears to be no follow through on the IAA direction of the Space for Africa – Africa in Space involvement of Comm 4. We have heard nothing from the IAA on the plans. The Chair, Amnon Ginati, presented a lengthy overview of the issues associated with telemedicine and the need to provide a viable focus area for interaction with Africa that addresses the needs of Africans rather than just of the IAA.

Organizational Issues

There was an extensive discussion of the role of the Permanent Committee on Small Satellites under the AOB category. The discussion took an additional hour and involved many commission 4 participants.

4 Acta Astronautica Journal status

One the issues that Comm 4 is particularly sensitive to is that it takes too long for articles to appear in Acta and there is no way for authors to track the status of their articles. There should be the ability to see which papers have been nominated for publication after presentation at the IAC and then which ones have gone on to review etc.

The other issue is that the papers presented at the IAC are only accessible if you have the DVD or buy the paper through the AIAA site. This does not provide much exposure of the presentations which leads to a very low impact factor.

5 Report to the Scientific Activities Committee and to the Board of Trustees

6 Next Meeting & Action Items

The next formal meeting will be in Paris at the IPC planning meeting for IAC 2011.

7 AOB

IAA is changing its structure to be more product oriented; there are issues with this as this may place it in conflict with the IAF and may make its role as a neutral academic organization less clear. While we recognize the value of having a conference organization center in Bangalore, the IAA Study Center in Beijing appears to raise issues of technology transfer from the USA or Europe. The Commission is concerned about how questions, which arise during the normal development of IAA reports, will be addressed in light of these issues.

The Commission is concerned about the way in which the Permanent Committee has arisen. Small satellite missions have long been the focus for Comm 4 activities. Though there are other activities in Comm 4, small satellites and lower cost approach to all problems has been a central tenet of Comm 4 activities. While one might argue that Small Satellites could be place under any Commission the logical place and the historical place is in Comm 4.

The two major areas of concern are that 1) the Comm 4 members were not formally consulted as to their views on the new Permanent Planning Committee (the Terms of Reference have not been reviewed and approved) and 2) there is no clear understanding of what problem this new arrangement will address.

Commission 4 is unable to determine added value from establishing a permanent committee and recommends the following:
- Rhoda Hornstein (program chair for B4.4) to be named on the permanent committee
- Rhoda Hornstein to review operations for permanent committee
- There should be a formal discussion on it in Paris, in March 2011, but earlier discussions are needed
- Two months for reviewing the Terms of Reference (TOR)
- Current Permanent committee to provide TOR to Commission 4
- Broader approach to the problem of attracting younger people to Commission 4

Other questions must be answered:
- Who established the permanent committee?
- Who are the members?
- What is the added value of the Permanent Committee? (not clear)

Several views from Commission 4 were expressed. Rhoda said it was worth considering that:
- the permanent committee be connected to Small Satellites
- the permanent committee transcends all commissions (reflecting the cross cutting nature of small sats)

Vice chair Leon Alkalai suggested the :
- IAA should keep the Permanent Committee under Commission 4, but require that it transcend between other commissions as well.

Given the broad mature of these comments further coordination of this issue seems warranted.

Rainer Sandau presented an overview of ISPRS coordination. A MOU between the IAA and ISPRS will be completed soon. The near-term goal is to have IAA participation in the next ISPRS in Melbourne Australia. See http://www.isprs.org/ for details about the ISPRS.

Commission 4 has an Action Item to let Rainer Sandau know whether we want to something with them. This action item needs to be completed by Oct 12 for their 2012 quadrennial conference

23 attendees
See attached attendance list for details