

International Academy of Astronautics: Commission VI

*Minutes of Commission VI meeting: 29 September 2003, IAC Congress, Bremen, Germany
Prepared and submitted by: Arthur Woods, Secretary*

1.0 Attendance:

Ivan Almar, Peggy Finarelli, Peter Jankowitsch, Dick Kline, Louis Laidet, Debra Lepore, Roger Malina, Mustapha Masmoudi, Keiken Ninomiya, David Raitt, Cathy Swan, Peter Swan, Douglas Vakoch, Arthur Woods, Meirong Wu, Fenggan Zhuang,

2.0 The Meeting:

The meeting was brought to order by former Commission VI Chairman Peter Jankowitsch.

The agenda was approved.

Peter Jankowitsch introduced the newly appointed Commission VI Chairman Ivan Almar. Other changes to the commission were announced with Roger Malina, the former Secretary being designated as the new Vice-Chair and Arthur Woods as the new Secretary of the commission.

Ivan Almar and those present thanked Peter Jankowitsch for his service during his tenure as its first Chairman and he also thanked Roger Malina for his services as Secretary. Roger Malina said he would pass over his files to Arthur Woods who indicated that he had already received some files and that he would optimize the mailing lists and would make the information available on the web.

3.0 The Current Composition of Commission VI:

Chairman	Ivan Almar (Hung)
Vice-chairman	Roger Malina (USA)
Secretary	Arthur Woods (Switz)
Section 1 Rep:	François Becker (Fra)
Section 2 Rep:	Calin Rosetti (Germ)
Section 3 Rep:	Jinhe Wei (China)
Section 4 Rep:	Mustapha Masmoudi (Tun)
Member:	Louis Laidet (Fra)
Member:	Ray A. Williamson R (USA)
Member:	George James (USA)

Other ex-officio members are the current chairs of the Study Groups and Program Committees.

The purpose of Commission VI and the roles of the new members were explained. New members in attendance introduced themselves.

The fact that the Commission Meetings were taking place at the same time that the congress technical sessions began was considered by all to be inopportune, and in the case of Commission VI, there was the Plenary Event "Space & Society" which none of us at the meeting could attend. It was suggested and agreed that in future IACs, the Commission meetings should be held on Academy Day whenever possible, as this would be more efficient and practical. Ivan Almar said he would introduce this suggestion to the IAA Scientific Committee meeting later and this was done.

4.0 Study Groups:

Dick Kline mentioned that all IAA Study Groups needed to reevaluate their goals and update their mission, their membership and issue frequent progress reports and developments. He pointed that out that a Study Group should have a “product” as its eventual aim. His comments were acknowledged by the Chairman and be those in attendance.

Reports on the Commission VI Study Groups:

- **S6.1 - Multilingual Space Dictionary with Definitions**
 - 14 additional terms will be added
 - Its main task is to make it available on the IAA website
 - Current Version 1.2 will become Version 1.2A in order to enhance its publication and distribution possibilities

- **S6.2 - Education in Space / Space in Education**
 - Bridging Space & Education
 - Creating a network of teachers
 - A Plenary was organized for 2. October 2003
 - ESA & UNESCO Workshop was held in March 2003

Note from the Secretariat made after the meeting: The Study Group 6.3 has to be established so that it is recognized by the Academy. Proposal must be provided as well as membership list, scope, etc.

- **S6.3 - Interstellar Message Construction**
 - The future study group is planning its next workshop in India
 - The focus on message construction will be on:
 - A. what sort of message
 - B. what type of content
 - C. what format
 - The future study group has become aware of the need to take a variety of approaches in order to expand perspectives, including the perspective of indigenous people
 - The process tends to be evolving from a purely scientific approach to a more social science and/or artistic approach

- **S6.4 - Bibliographical Resource of IAA History Papers 1968– 2000**
 - No one from this Study Group was present
 - The History Study Group would like to become a permanent study group

- **S6.5 - Space Art Data Base– www.spacearts.info**
 - The Spacearts database had been under development for about one year, but was behind its proposed schedule due to the fact that the process was more complicated than anticipated
 - The database now contained 15 artists, but not all entries were translated into all three languages: French, German and English and that translation would be a formable and expensive task
 - The project has engaged an art historian to help interview artists and to translate some of the texts into German and English
 - The official opening of the database would take place at the @rt Outsider Festival in Paris on October 18, 2003 which has organized an exhibition of space art including many of the most active contemporary space artists
 - The study group was planning to hold a 3 day workshop with space scientists, engineers and artists, writers, and other cultural workers within the next year and that negotiations were being held with both the ISU and ESA as possible host partners

- **S6.6 - Impact of Space Activities upon Society**
 - The number of letters posted online so far as 14 but included such distinguished personages such as Kofi Annan , Arthur C. Clarke and Rudd Lubbers. More letters were in the pipeline.
 - All study group members have been requested to increase efforts with the goal to have:
 - at least one letter submission by November 15
 - a second by 15 December
 - two more by 15 January
 - three more by 15 February
 - four more by 23 March
 - The Space & Society Documentation and Letter of Invitation will be sent out to all Academy members asking for their help. Arthur Woods volunteered to harvest the Academy e-mail addresses from the IAA website and to organize the mailing.
 - It was mentioned that the letter had to be updated to reflect and include the new president of the IAA, Ed Stone
 - The project will be mentioned in a number of newsletters, such as the IAA's, and the ISU
 - The goal is to have approximately 150 responses within the next 6 months
 - The publication target goal has been set for end of 2004 or early 2005.

- **Space Focus on Peace– is a combined study activity of Commission V & Commission VI**

5.0 Program Committees:

Reports on the Commission VI Program Committees and Session for Vancouver:

The six sessions for the Vancouver, 55th IAC under the auspices of Commission VI are:

IAA.6.15 38th Symposium on History of Astronautics

- IAA.6.15.1 - Memoirs
- IAA.6.15.2 – Organizational Histories
- IAA.6.15.3 – Scientific & Technical Reviews
- IAA.6.15.4 – Evolution of the Concept of the Space Station

IAA.6.16 15th Space Activity and Society Symposium

- Sights and Sounds of Space
- Imagining Space: Inspiring the Next Generation

Additionally:

- The Call for Papers has been published in the 1st announcement.
- Submission deadline for abstracts is: 20 February 2004
- Early communication with potential presenters would be an advantage in order to avoid last minute problems.

Session Proposals for the 56th IAC in Fukuoka, Japan should be submitted by 15 December, 2003 to the Commission Chairmen, the Secretary and to the IAA office.

- David Raitt mentioned possible Commission VI Session topics as:
 - The Culturalization of Space
 - Space Technology Transfer – (a possible Plenary Session topic)
- It was also mentioned that it would be desirable to include a Japanese representative on the Program committee and to look closely at the Japanese perspective on the cultural aspects of space
- Roger Malina mentioned that Richard Clar should be contacted to see if he had any plans to follow-up on the topic of Space Architecture.
- Doug Vakoch suggested a SETI related session for Commission VI, however most felt that all the SETI sessions should take place under the auspices of Commission I.

6.0 Additional Business

Proposal for a stand alone IAA Space & Society Conference in Budapest, Hungary:

Ivan Almar introduced a proposal to organize a special IAA Space & Society Conference in Budapest, Hungary in the spring of 2005, either before or after the annual IPC meetings in Paris.

He reported the following details:

- The conference would be 3 days adjacent to a week-end to facilitate travel
- He had the support of IAA president Ed Stone, the Hungarian Space Office, the Hungarian Astronautical Society and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.
- He would like to make a formal request to the SAC meeting with the support and approval of Commission VI

Discussion among those present was positive and it was suggested that the title of the conference would be "Impact of Space on Society" and that this would tie in with the world leaders book project and study group.

It was mentioned that a special Program Committee would need to be established. Presentations would also include the submission of a paper which could be published in a Special Issue of Acta Astronautica.

The following preliminary topics were suggested:

- Economics
- Health
- History
- Legal Aspects
- Ethics
- Public Events
- Terminology
- Education
- Spin-offs
- Culture
- Breakthrough Technologies
- etc

David Raitt mentioned that he could ask the ESA Conference bureau to potentially handle conference logistics and that the conference could be listed on the ESA website.

With the backing of Commission VI, Ivan Almar proposed the conference to the IAA SAC meeting.