

# **Division on Dynamical Astronomy**

**Report to AAS Executive  
Committee**

**14 October 2011**

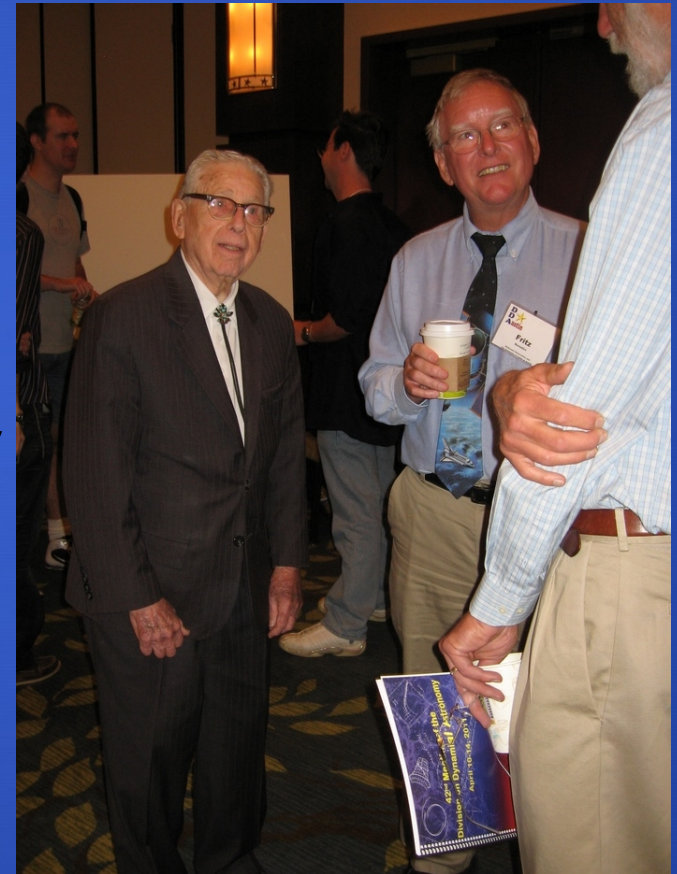


*Compiled by Dan Scheeres, Chair, DDA  
Presented by Alice Monet, Secretary, DDA*



# State of the Division

- **Finances**
- **Meetings**
- **Awards**
- **Interactions with parent society**
- **Membership**
- **Public Outreach**



*Ray Duncombe, 1<sup>st</sup> DDA Chair, with Fritz Benedict, LOC Chair of 2011 Austin Meeting*



# DDA Membership

- Membership has grown by about 76% since 1998, but has leveled off in recent years.
- 317 Active Members currently, with 30 Affiliates
- The rate of growth has been fairly constant.
- Membership goals are:
  - Increase proportion of younger astronomers
  - Cover full range of dynamical astronomy
  - Interact more with parent society

	Total Membership	Affiliate Members
2011	317	30
2010	275	
2009	319	18
2008	336	21
2007	320	20
2006	315	22
2005	299	16
2004	297	53
2003	253	37



# DDA Financial Report

- **DDA funds are managed by parent society.**
- **Annual dues are \$10**
- **Donations are solicited for Brouwer Award and Student Stipend Funds.**
- **Meeting revenues have fluctuated significantly over the last few years, with an overall trend to losing money.**
- **To remedy this, active discussions have ensued within the DDA and between the DDA and AAS to ensure better financial controls of the meeting expenses.**



*Committee Meeting during 2010 Boston Meeting*





# DDA Meetings



- **2012 – May 6-10 – Mount Hood**
- **2013 – Dates TBD – Brazil**



Typical attendance ranges from  $\approx$  75-100 astronomers

Meetings typically last 4 days, with no concurrent sessions.

Contributed talks are 20 min; invited talks are 40 min.

2-3 student stipend winners, Brouwer lecture, 4-5 invited talks, posters up for entire meeting.





# 2012 DDA Meeting

- **DDA Committee decided to pass on the 2012 Princeton venue**
  - **LOC Chair was unable to commit time necessary for meeting**
  - **Several logistical issues were identified with no easy solution**
- **Al Harris volunteered to be LOC Chair at Mt. Hood, OR**
  - **Coordination between Al and AAS Office for contract**
  - **Contract with hotel signed, venue change announced**
  - **MOU signed between DDA and AAS for meeting support**



# 2013 Meetings

- **At the 2011 Austin Business Meeting a proposal to hold the 2013 meeting in Brazil was approved**
  - **Concerns: foreign location, need to develop final conference venue and plans, worry about reduced attendance**
  - **Positives: support in the DDA for a Brazil venue, has been discussed several times in the past; LOC Chairs identified, are known to the community, and have successfully organized meetings previously (ACM, IAU): Sylvio Ferraz-Mello and Daniella Lazzaro**
  - **There is a large dynamical astronomy/astrodynamics community in South America which will likely fill the “seats” opened by decreased US attendance.**
  - **Current DDA Chair Scheeres will meet with Lazzaro/Ferraz-Mello in early December to develop details.**
  - **Back-up options include Estes Park, Scheeres as LOC Chair.**





# Future Meetings

- **Currently have no tendered proposals for 2014 – are planning to solicit proposals from the community.**
- **Discussions within the DDA Executive Committee have identified that our current process of meeting site selection is “broken” and requires improvement.**
- **Plans in place to revisit officer duties and meeting selection timelines and guidelines this Fall.**





# Brouwer Award



Dirk Brouwer

- *The Brouwer Award may be given in any branch of Dynamical Astronomy which is represented by the membership of the Division on Dynamical Astronomy including celestial mechanics, astrometry, geophysics, stellar systems, galactic and extragalactic dynamics*



Lia Athanassoula  
2011 awardee

□ Nominations are needed now for 2012 award. Contact Tom Statler, NSF/OU.



Award Ceremony at  
2011 Austin Meeting



# Student Stipend Awards

- **Open to all students currently enrolled in an academic program at any college or university and doing research in the area of dynamical astronomy. Such research areas include, *but are not limited to:***
  - the dynamics of planetary systems ,
  - star and planet formation,
  - star cluster dynamics,
  - hydrodynamics,
  - galactic and extragalactic dynamics,
  - cosmology,
  - coordinate systems and astrometry
- **Three \$600 stipends at 2011 Austin meeting; registration and banquet fees waived for meeting at which winners give talks on their research.**
- **Nominations being accepted now for Mt. Hood, 2012 meeting. Contact Dmitri Veras, University of Florida.**



Marc Murison and Rebekah Dawson



# Interactions with AAS

- Financial services
- Meeting organizational support & web services
- Publication of abstracts
- DDA special session at upcoming AAS meeting:
  - *Cutting-Edge Dynamics: From Planetary Rings to Galaxies*
  - Monday, January 9, 2012, 2:00 – 3:30 PM
  - 5 invited talks from the Austin Meeting
- Brouwer Award Lectures presented at AAS meetings
- DDA members serving on AAS committees





# DDA Public Outreach



Carolyn Porco  
Public Talk at  
Boulder, 2008.

- **Public lecture series in tandem with DDA meetings**
- **DDA members giving public lectures**
- **Student stipend program**



Greg Laughlin  
Public Talk at  
Ann Arbor, 2007.



Sethanne Howard,  
“4000 years of Women  
in Science”



Jenny Greene,  
Public Talk at  
Austin, 2011