Proceedings of the annual meeting of the French Society of Astronomy & Astrophysics

Paris, June 3-6, 2014



Credits: Christine Toutain. ESA/Herschel space observatory/AIM PH. André et al. Orion A

ii SF2A 2014

Foreword

The 2014 annual meeting of the French Society of Astronomy and Astrophysics (Société Française d'Astronomie et d'Astrophysique – SF2A) was hosted by the "Astrophysique Instrumentation et Modélisation" laboratory from June 3 to 6, in Paris. These "Journées" gathered about 365 professional astronomers and astrophysicists, who participated to plenary sessions organized by the SF2A and to workshops organized by the scientific committees of the "National Programs" and "Actions Spécifiques" of INSU-CNRS, several of them in collaboration with our special guest, the Sociedade Portuguesa de Astronomia (Portugal).

During the plenary sessions excellent scientific reviews were presented on outstanding scientific results obtained recently by our community. Also, general interest talks led to topical discussions on scientific projects (e.g. at CFHT as presented by D. Simons) as well as on the organization and the future of french astronomical research in the international environment. In particular, the latest news on the reform of the International Astronomical Union was introduced by the General Secretary T. Montmerle, D. Mourard provided the community with information of the Institut National des Sciences de l'Univers (INSU-CNRS), and F. Casoli presented a review of the current and future activities of the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES).

This year twelve scientific workshops were organized on topical subjects, and one additional session was devoted to outreach and communication in astronomy. A users' meeting of the national two meter telescopes (TBL and OHP/T193) was also scheduled.

A large number of SF2A members attended the General Assembly where the annual activity and financial reports of our Society were presented by the president and treasurer of the SF2A Council, C.Reylé and S.Boissier. The 2014 SF2A "Thesis Prize" was presented to E. Huby by G. Perrin (Paris Observatory). The 2014 SF2A prize "Jeune Chercheur" was presented to E. Hugot by D. Rouan (Paris Observatory), and the 2014 prize "Jeune Enseignant-Chercheur" was presented to F. Lique by P. Encrenaz (Paris Observatory). We warmly thank the sponsors of these prizes, EdP Sciences, the HP company and the Exelis company for their continuing interest in our science and support to our Society. Following the award ceremony an excellent cocktail was served in the buildings of the Sorbonne University.

Along the Journées a number of social, outreach, and cultural events were organized. The SF2A Prize "Découvrir l'Univers" sponsored by EdP Sciences and Bayard Jeunesse aimed at promoting astronomy among children and young students. The award ceremony was held in the Cité des Sciences in La Villette. A movie session was offered by the planetarium to all the laureates. P.-A. Duc and A. Brahic gave two public conferences during the week.

We wish to thank the INSU-CNRS, the laboratoire Astrophysique Instrumentation et Modélisation, as well as the CNES, the CEA/DSM/IRFU, and the National Programs and Actions Spécifiques of INSU-CNRS for their financial and organisational support. We are extremely grateful to the University Paris-Diderot for hosting the Journées.

We warmly thank the members of the Local Organizing Committee: the chair, J. Ballet, and the team J.M. Bonnet-Bidaud, P. Bouchet, F. Bournaud, Ph. Briet, P.-A. Duc, D. Gilles, M. González, P.-O Lagage, S. Rodriguez, C. Toutain, H. Triou. Their outstanding work and their generous contributions were absolutely crucial for making the "Journées" such a success. Thanks also to SF2A board and council for its active contribution, and to the editors of these proceedings.

Céline Reylé Présidente de la SF2A