

Dear Colleagues,

At the IAU General Assembly in Vienna this year, I became President of Commission H4, taking over from Richard de Grijs, who served as President from 2015-2018. Francesca D'Antona is the new Vice President and the Organising Committee now includes the following members: Ernst Paunzen, Andrea Dupree, Eric Peng, Jan Palous, André Moitinho de Almeida and Andrés Piatti. Richard will stay on as an Advisor.

Over the next 3 years I look forward to working with the Organising Committee and all members of our Commission on Star Clusters. I am particularly looking forward to expanding our Commission membership to new IAU Junior Members. I would like to encourage all members of H4 to ask junior members in their departments to join the IAU and our commission. I also encourage all commission members to nominate outstanding students for IAU PhD Prizes.

As President, I am interested in feedback from members about what they would like to see our Commission doing over the next 3 years. Do we want to encourage more IAU Symposium on star clusters research (would our field benefit from a conference series?) – if so now is the time to write a Letter of Intent! We are an active vibrant research field with many members all over the globe – I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please send them to me or other Organising Commission members.

Finally, I would like to thank past-President Richard de Grijs and the outgoing Organising Committee member Alison Sills for their service over the past 3 years.

Best regards,
Amanda Karakas

For contact details of the Organizing Committee see:

https://www.iau.org/science/scientific_bodies/commissions/H4/