FM14 Session 4: Outreach Action and Advocacy in the Context of IAU’s 2020-2030 Strategic Plan

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Abstract. Section 4 of the FM14 focus on the outreach action and advocacy in the context of IAU’s 2020-2030 Strategic Plan. This paper also contains supplementary materials that point to contributed talks and poster presentations that can be found online.

Keywords. astronomy outreach, astronomy education, astronomy for development

1. Summary

In this session on “Outreach Action and Advocacy in the Context of IAU’s 2020-2030 Strategic Plan,” was started by an overview of the the IAU 2020-2030 Strategic Plan by the Incoming IAU President Ewine van Dishoeck, followed by a few related talks corresponding to the action items on the strategic plan such as translations and dark-sky protection. A panel discussion was followed with panelist represented the Division C, Commission C2, IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach and IAU Office of Astronomy for Development.

2. Discussions

These reflections were aired in the last Panel Discussion on “Outreach Action and Advocacy in the Context of IAU’s 2020-2030 Strategic Plan.”

- Incoming IAU President Ewine van Dishoeck emphasized the theme of our home planet as the Pale Blue Dot, from which we make our cosmic explorations while taking better care of our home planet.
- Sylvie Vauclair recommended that our outreach efforts promote critical thinking. Bill Waller agreed with Sylvie that advancing critical thinking provides an important lens for focusing our outreach efforts.
- Rick Fienberg noted that Commission C2 and the OAO are very close in their missions. There continue to be the CAP Journal and CAP Conference Working Groups. He sees a need to sort out the purviews of these activities.
- Kevin Govender urged us to make major contributions to the UN’s sustainability goals and to develop measures of success.
- Sze-leung Cheung said we need to plan to set measurable goals. For example, he likes the prospect of coordinating and developing translation glossaries in astronomy.
• Rick Fienberg opined that outreach differs from education in terms of intent. Are you trying to build awareness and engagement, or you trying to teach content and skills?
• Kevin Govender reminded us that the OAD provides seed funding for projects that build capacity.
• Thilina Heenatigala wanted to see more synergies between the IAU offices.
• Kevin Govender responded by stating that we will need to combine our opportunities and communicate them together.
• Incoming Division C President Susanna Deustua agreed that we have yet to coordinate the offices and so address key opportunities. In closing, she urged us to “apply skills to our passions.”

3. Supplementary materials

The following contributed talk of section 4 can be found online in the format of supplementary material

• Shibata, Y. et al. The Astronomy Translation Network: Outreach Action and Advocacy in the Context of IAU’s 2020-2030 Strategic Plan. Supplementary material 4-01.

The following poster presentations of section 4 can be found online in the format of supplementary materials

• Canas, L. et al. IAU and the Public: IAU Office for Astronomy Outreach Communications. Supplementary material 4-02.
• Gomes, N. et al. Dark Skies Rangers: a flagship to bridge the gap between schools and communities. Supplementary material 4-03.
• Waller, W. Towards an IAU Position and Statement on Terrestrial Climate Change. Supplementary material 4-04.