

EA-ROAD NEWSLETTER

国际天文学联合会·天文促发展办公室东亚分部简报

Hello!

Welcome to the first electronic newsletter of the East Asian regional Office of Astronomy for Development (EA-ROAD).

The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has been making a major push in facilitating scientists to use their skills in support of the wider community they form a part of. Building on the resounding success of the 2009 International Year of Astronomy, the IAU set out to develop a visionary strategic plan (2010–2020), "Astronomy for the Developing World". This plan aimed to use astronomy to stimulate development at all levels including primary, secondary and higher education, science research and the public understanding of science.

It has been almost a year since the IAU established the EA-ROAD, which happened during the IAU's XXVIIIth General Assembly in Beijing. We were given the responsibility to coordinate and facilitate development activities in China, Mongolia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). If you would like to know more about the background and reasons for the IAU's push for Astronomy for Development, a lot of this can be found in my article on pages 40-43 of the October 2012 issue of the Amateur Astronomer magazine, which is published by Beijing Planetarium. Alternatively, if you are comfortable reading English, the original version in English is available at <http://astro-expat.info/ROAD-EastAsia.pdf>.

In the past year, a small Steering Group of the EA-ROAD has been working hard to get the office up and running. We are hopeful that we will have a functioning website very soon, but in the mean time we refer you to the main website of the IAU's Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD), at <http://www.astronomyfordevelopment.org>, for further information. This

is also the time that we are kicking off a regular series of electronic newsletters, roughly every three months, to coincide with news releases by the global office. Please distribute this newsletter as widely as possible within your organization, among your colleagues and friends, or at school.

We hope to ramp up our EA-ROAD activities in the years to come, but we will need volunteers to help us with many of the activities planned; you can either contact us through eastasia@astro4dev.org or by signing up as a volunteer at <http://www.astro4dev.org/work-with-the-oad/oadvolunteers/register-as-volunteer/>.

The global OAD has just released a call for proposals for projects in any of the OAD areas that will be implemented in 2014; more information is included elsewhere in this newsletter, but please keep in mind that the deadline for project proposals is 31 August 2013 (midnight UTC). Proposals can be submitted in a number of languages, including in Chinese. If you need any language assistance to draft your proposal, do not hesitate to contact us and we will do our best to help you.

This newsletter also contains updates on our efforts to engage with our friends and colleagues in the wider region, as well as an opportunity for collaboration with the University of California (USA) and the Thirty Meter Telescope office in Hawai'i in the context of student/teacher training.

I wish you a successful summer and hope to see many project proposals from the EA-ROAD community!



Richard de Grijs
(Joint Director, EA-ROAD)

EA-ROAD STEERING COMMITTEE:

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- Richard de Grijs

(Kavli Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics at Peking University), joint director; Task Force 1 and DPRK contact

- ZHANG Ziping

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大家好，欢迎大家关注天文促发展办公室东亚分部 (EA-ROAD) 的工作。EA-ROAD 的办公室设立于北京天文馆，其协调员由北大科维里天文与天体物理研究所的何锐思教授 (Richard de Grijs) 担任。作为东亚分部的共同协调员，我的职责是协助何老师推动 OAD 东亚区的各项工作，我的工作重点将侧重于中小学和公众天文教育方面，以及天文志愿者的联系与协调工作。2014 年度的 OAD 项目申报工作已经开始，请大家关注本页底部的通知，并积极参加项目的申报。祝大家好运！



张子平

北京天文馆 业务办

DEVELOPING THE NETWORK OF EA-ROAD ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

The IAU needs the support from a large variety of individuals to facilitate the activities envisioned in its 10-year strategic plan. As the first thrust of efforts, the team at Yunnan Astronomical Observatory has initiated a network of EA-ROAD associate partners, which already involves

14 members in the five southwestern provinces of China. More astronomical bodies, associations, schools and universities in these and other regions of China are very welcome to join our network and unite our strengths to make the world a better place using astronomy. (HJH)

国际天文学会需要社会各界的支持来帮助她实现她的十年战略规划。作为第一波努力，云南天文台的团队已经开始着手发展 EA-ROAD 基础合作伙伴网络 (目前已经包含来自 5 个西南省份的 14 个

成员)。欢迎更多的这个地区以及中国其它地区的更多天文团体、协会、学校、大学等加入我们的成员网络，让我们共同努力，以天文教学和宣传为工具，让这个世界变得更美好。

OAD GLOBAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

天文促发展办公室 (OAD) 全球项目申报邀请通知

The OAD launched its Call for Proposals for projects to be implemented in the 2014 calendar year and we now invite you to submit your ideas for funding!

This year the process has been streamlined to make it easier for proposers and evaluators alike. You will find the details of the Call as well as an online application form on the OAD website (direct

link: <http://www.astro4dev.org/aboutiauoad/cfp/>). As in the previous call, you will find three separate calls and application forms for each respective Task Force (TF1: Universities and Research; TF2: Children and Schools; and TF3 Public Outreach).

If you would like to see examples of projects that were funded in the last call, please have a look at the

OAD website where you will find more information on projects being implemented this year.

Please note that the strict deadline for submission of proposals is 23:59 UTC on 31 August 2013 (earlier than last year).

We look forward to receiving your proposals. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

天文促发展办公室已经发布了 2014 年度全球项目的申报邀请通知，我们现在邀请您提交项目及经费的申请书！

今年的申请程序变得更加简洁。您可以在网上查到这次项目申请的细节以及网上申报表 (链

接: <http://www.astro4dev.org/aboutiauoad/cfp/>)。和以往的项目申报邀请一样，你会看到针对三个不同领域的申报邀请和申报表 (TF1: 大学与研究; TF2: 中小学与儿童; TF3: 公众)。

如果您想知道我们以往资助过

的项目的案例，您可以参看一下 OAD 的网页。

请您特别注意项目申报严格的截止时间为 2013 年 8 月 31 日 23:59 UTC。

我们期待着您的申报。如果您有任何问题，请不要犹豫和我们联系。

THE CHINESE LANGUAGE EXPERTISE CENTER (LOAD)

中文语言服务中心 (LOAD)

Currently, the LOAD associated with the EA-ROAD mainly focuses on translating English materials that can be used in our ROAD activities. Up to now, one set of hands-on lesson plans provided by the Institute of Physics has been translated by student volunteers at Peking University: "Teaching physics in remote places" (http://www.iop.org/about/international/development/resources/page_43501.html).

The translated PDF file will be available for free on our EA-

ROAD webpage (at the moment, it is available by email request to eastasia@astro4dev.org). Translation of another project, "Physicists in Primary Schools" (PIPS: <http://www.iop.org/activity/outreach/resources/pips/index.html>) is also underway.

A third translation project is also being scheduled, namely of the English manual of the teaching tool "Universe in a Box" which was developed by EU Universe Awareness team (<http://www.unawe.org/resources/universebox/>). (HJH)

目前, LOAD 的工作主要集中在翻译一些可以在 ROAD 活动中使用的英文科普活动资料。到目前为止, 北京大学的学生志愿者已经完成了对英国物理学会的一个物理科普项目 -- 在偏远地区教物理 -- (http://www.iop.org/about/international/development/resources/page_43501.html) 的翻译工作。

翻译成中文的 PDF 文件将在 EA-ROAD 的网页上免费获取 (目前可以通过向 [\[astro4dev.org\]\(mailto:astro4dev.org\) 发电子邮件获取\)。另一个英国物理学会的科普项目 -- 小学中的物理学家 -- 的翻译工作也正在进行中 \(PIPS: <http://www.iop.org/activity/outreach/resources/pips/index.html>\)。](mailto:eastasia@</p>
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我们计划中的第三个翻译任务是将欧盟“宇宙意识”项目组的“盒子中的宇宙”天文教学工具的使用说明书翻译成中文 (<http://www.unawe.org/resources/universebox/>)。

The translation work is usually done on the basis of volunteer efforts. Thus, we call for more volunteers to join our team by signing up at the IAU OAD volunteer portal <http://www.astro4dev.org/work-with-the-oad/oadvolunteers/register-as-volunteer/>

www.astro4dev.org/work-with-the-oad/oadvolunteers/register-as-volunteer/ to contribute your enthusiasm to our future Chinese language services. (HJH)

LOAD 的这些翻译工作都是建立在志愿者服务的基础之上的。因此, 我们欢迎更多的天文志愿者能够到 IAU OAD 的志愿者门户 <http://www.astro4dev.org/work-with-the-oad/oadvolunteers/register-as-volunteer/>

<http://www.astro4dev.org/work-with-the-oad/oadvolunteers/register-as-volunteer/> 注册登记, 为我们将来更多的中文语言服务工作提供您热情的支持。

BUILDING COLLABORATIONS AND PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

The ISEE Professional Development Program (PDP) has been preparing graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and professionals to be effective and inclusive educators for thirteen years. Participants in the PDP go through a series of workshops organized into "institutes" and then design and teach their own lab unit in an ISEE program or course. PDP teams are often interdisciplinary, inter-institutional, and increasingly international. They teach units in undergraduate programs that build research skills, and support critical transitions in higher education. Teams also design and teach units on specialty topics (for example adaptive optics) for technical summer schools, aimed at graduate students and professionals. PDP participants gain teaching, mentoring, collaboration, communication, and other professional skills. The PDP was originally developed by the Center for Adaptive Optics (CfAO), and was a key ingredient in the CfAO building a successful and collaborative community - that is, when the graduate students began working together, collaboration increased. We propose new program to use the PDP model to stimulate international collaborations and new opportunities for graduate students. We are open to discussions with Chinese colleagues for collaboration.

Interested colleagues are encouraged to get in touch through the EA-ROAD by emailing eastasia@astro4dev.org.

Lisa Hunter

Director, Institute for Scientist & Engineer Educators, University of California at Santa Cruz and Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii

UPDATE ON RENEWED ENGAGEMENT WITH DPRK ASTRONOMERS

At the 2012 IAU General Assembly, the DPRK (re-) joined the IAU as an observer nation. The most pressing need for the development of professional astronomy in the DPRK is professional training. In this context, NAOC and the EA-ROAD have initiated an exchange and training programme with Pyongyang Astronomical Observatory (PAO); in addition, Leiden University (Netherlands) has offered 2 placements for 6 months each to PAO

astronomers. At the time of writing, two junior researchers, selected by PAO, are spending 6 months at NAOC's Huairou Solar Physics station, where they will be immersed in scientific research (and training) at an internationally competitive level. Upon their return to the DPRK, they will act as mentors to their colleagues there. In addition, the junior researchers from the DPRK will be actively involved in research projects at the host institutes, which will eventually

lead to publications in the international peer-reviewed literature.

Our colleagues from the DPRK have told us that they suffer from an acute shortage of computer hardware. If you have any spare, second-hand laptop computers that you could bring to NAOC in Beijing before December 2013, this would be very welcome and immensely helpful to our DPRK visitors. We thank you in advance for your generosity and assistance! (RdG)

STRENGTHENING THE ASTRONOMICAL COMMUNITY IN MONGOLIA

Although Mongolian astronomy dates back thousands of years, the country has only been an interim member of the IAU since 2006. The population of Mongolia is slightly less than three million, almost half of which lives in its capital city Ulaanbaatar. Despite the relatively isolated location of this land-locked country, Mongolia's economy has shown a substantial growth over the last decades, and its activities in astronomy have steadily expanded over the years, both in terms of teaching and research. Astronomy is currently taught at National University of Mongolia School

of Physics and Electronics, and at the NUM-ITC-UNESCO Space Science and Remote Sensing International Laboratory in Ulaanbaatar, while research in astrophysics is carried out at the Research Center for Astronomy and Geophysics at the Mongolian Academy of Science. Several small telescopes are available for teaching and research purposes. While there is no planetarium, amateurs have organised themselves in active astronomy societies.

The Mongolian astronomical community has interacted with foreign organisations through

several workshops and schools, most prominently the 2008 Astronomical Summer School in Ulaanbaatar, and also through interaction with the National Astronomical Observatories of Japan (NAOJ). More recently, Mongolia has strengthened the connections with its neighbours through their participation in the EA-ROAD and through interaction with the IAU Office of Astronomy for Development. In the near future, Mongolian astronomers will interact with the international community through summer schools, exchange of researchers, and an international conference which is currently being planned. (TK)