

1. IAU OAD Project Details

1. Project

Your Name : Rafael Martinez-Galarza

Project Name : AstroTwin COLO

Short code/ abbreviation : Institute Twinning between the University of Antioquia (Colombia) and the Leiden Observatory

Project Implementation Year : 2014

2. Final Summary of Project

The AstroTwinCoLO 2014 Meeting was the second event celebrated as part of the Astronomy Twinning Program between the University of Antioquia (Colombia) and Leiden Observatory (Leiden). The meeting was held in Medellin (Colombia) between August 19-29, 2014. The goal was to continue with a 5-year long collaboration effort between the two institutions that started in 2013. We had the specific goal of diversifying the courses offered by UofA to its undergrad astronomy students by having two visiting LO professors per year who teach specific topics and become part of the official astronomy program, and allowing for the visit of UofA students to carry on small research projects under the supervision of LO researchers (at least 1 per year).

The program in 2014, funded by OAD, was successful, and we had one course on gravitational lensing and one of interferometry. 38 students followed the courses and presented the exam. 20 of them obtained a passing grade. As part of our commitment with task force 3, two public lectures were held at the Medellin planetarium by the lecturers (Profs. Kuijken and LePoole), with high attendance by the general public. This followed the same scheme as the twinning activities in 2013 and 2014, which were funded by Colombian official institutions and NWO-OAD. We are starting preparations for a fourth year in 2016.

The undergrad program in Astronomy has recently started graduating its first students. At least four of them have been accepted to pursue a Master program in astronomy at the Leiden Observatory, partly due to their participation and commitment in our twinning program. The presence of Colombian graduate students in the Netherlands has significantly increased in recent years as a result of this collaboration. All lectures from all courses have been streamed live and have been recorded. They can be found in the link below.

3. Please provide relevant web links to your project

website : <https://sites.google.com/site/astrotwincolo/about>

social media : https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=astrotwincolo

4. Project Team

	Total Number in the team	Number of hours (estimated total time spent on project in the year)
Professors	2	40 per professor
PhDs	5	30 per PhD
Students - Masters and PhD	40	40 per student
Teachers		
Education experts		
Amateur Astronomers		

5. Please list any additional institutional collaborators or advisors and explain their role in the project

The University of Leiden agreed to continue with this collaboration and has been very active in providing excellent lectures for the past three years. The University of Antioquia has provided the venue, the facilities and the logistics to guarantee the success of the activities, and has of course provided most of the participant students. They have also provided some of the funding. The Colombian fund for the development of higher education, a public institution, as well as the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research have provided funding for the activities.

6. In which language(s) was your project delivered and/or written?

English

7. In which countries was your project delivered?

Colombia, Netherlands

2. Audiences & Deliverables

What age groups were your target audiences?

18-25 years old

8. Accessibility and Inclusion

Was your project targeted at one or more of the groups below?

socio-economically disadvantaged

Other (specify): General public

In what way did your project serve the above group(s)?

Public universities in Colombia, such as the Universidad de Antioquia, are the only accessible places of higher education for socio-economically disadvantaged students. Most private universities have tuition fees that make it impossible for most students to attend their programs, and admission to the University of Antioquia is based on merit only. We have brought to these students astronomy education at the highest level that they would have otherwise never had access to. By teaching the courses in English we have also prepared the students to pursue further astronomy education abroad, and the results are starting to show up. Additionally, with the public lectures translated into Spanish we targeted a general public that is eager to learn but that usually do not have the means to access to these type of lectures.

9. Project reach

Number of events organized : 4

Number of university students reached : over 40

Number of public members reached : ~200

3. Activities & Resources

10. Activities & Events

	Name	(short) Description	Number of attendees (if known, provide number of teachers, learners, public)
1	Course on Gravitational Lensing		40 undergrad students
2	Course of Interferometry		40 undergrad students
3	Public Lecture 1		200 general public attendees, probably more via live streaming
4	Public Lecture 2		200 general public attendees, probably more via live streaming
5			
6			
7			
8			

11. Which of the following categories apply to your project?

summer/winter school

12. Details for summer/winter schools and workshops

Major Topics

1 : Gravitationa Lensing

2 : Interferometry

3 : Instrumentation

other info

Number of lecturers : 2

Lecturers from out of town : 2

Number of students : over 40

Students from out of town : ~5 in the room, more via streaming

Costs of accommodation : EUR 2000

Costs of travel : EUR 3000

Total number of lectures : 16

Total number of practical sessions : 5

Number of computers available : 25

13. Please upload resources or materials developed for your project that we can share with our network.

14. File sharing link

Link 1 : <https://sites.google.com/site/astrotwincolo/about>

Link 2 : https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=astrotwincolo

15. Target Outcome(s)

Inspire audience

Improve science learning outcomes in education setting

Improve accessibility to science

4. Timeline & Budget

16. Budget

Summary of Costs - Please complete with amounts in EURO.

Total cost of project as described in the proposal

5000

Actual cost of project

4700

Total amount received from IAU

4000

Total amount received from other funding sources

1000

Total Surplus or Deficit amount

187

If Surplus, how much and what have you used the surplus funds for?

If Deficit, how much and where did you find the funds to make up for the deficit?

The astronomy group of the Universidad de Antioquia funded the deficit.

17. Please upload your budget and necessary receipts

[AstroTwinCoLO_2ndMeeting_Report\(1\).pdf](#)

18.

Timeline

	Delayed by less than 1 month	Delayed by 1 month or more	Ahead of schedule
Project was	X		

19. Challenges and Recommendations

20. Is there any other information about your project that you would like to add, which has not been covered in any of the previous questions? (Optional)

21.

Are there any other attachments/documents that you think are important for the OAD to consider? Please upload them here:

captcha answer

5. Thank You!

Confirmation Email

Mar 09, 2016 12:25:15 Success: Email Sent to: rv@astro4dev.org