

Instrument Centre for Danish Astrophysics (IDA)

Board Meeting

Date: 25.04.2022, 10:30 – 16:00 CEST

Venue: DTU and Zoom

IDA Board Members

Present

- *Allan Hornstrup*, DTU, ESO council delegate, Chair of WG1
- *Desiree D.M. Ferreira*, DTU, Chair of WG3
- *Emil Knudstrup*, AU, elected member (student)
- *Giorgos Leloudas*, DTU, elected member
- *Hans Kjeldsen (HK)*, AU, Head of IDA, Member of the NOT Council
- *Irfan Kuivvetli*, DTU, elected member
- *Jens Hjorth*, KU
- *Johan Fynbo*, KU, Chair of WG8, elected member
- *Lars Buchhave*, DTU
- *Lise Christensen*, KU, Chair of WG5
- *Mark Lykke Winther*, AU, elected member (student)
- *Marianne Vestergaard*, KU, ESO STC
- *Mia Sloth Lundkvist*, AU, Danish member of the NOT OPC
- *Sara Svendsen*, DTU, Chair of WG9, elected member

Participating remotely

- *Christa Gall*, KU, Chair of WG 4, elected member [joined after lunch]
- *Jakob Lysgaard Rørsted (JLR)*, AU, acting IDA manager and Chair of WG7
- *Mads Toudal Frandsen*, SDU [from 11:30]
- *Roman Gold*, SDU [partially]
- *Thomas Greve*, DTU, elected member

Excused

- *Camilla Borre*, AU, elected member (student)
- *Heidi Korhonen*, KU, Chair of the NOT Council, Chair of WG2
- *Jes Jørgensen*, KU, Chair of WG6
- *Katriona Gould*, KU, elected member (student)
- *Simon Albrecht*, AU
- *Steen Hannested*, AU

Observers

Present

- *Birgitta Nordström*, KU, Danish representative in EAS and A&A, Chair of WG11
- *Troels Haugbølle*, KU, Chair of WG10 [participated remotely]

Chair of the meeting: HK

Minute writer: JLR

Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The delegation from Aarhus is delayed due to a traffic jam and construction work. Meeting starts at 10:45.

HK welcomes everyone. Some participants join remotely via Zoom (including JLR). The meeting is recorded to help with the minute taking (the recording will be deleted after the final minutes have been approved).

The agenda is adopted. The minutes from last meeting are approved (minor correction, ASTRONET membership is not 2-5000 kEUR but 2-5 kEUR). The action items are reviewed by HK.

The IDA agreement

Signing is still pending. Purely a legal question about what IDA can and cannot do. Lawyers from the universities are negotiating. The new agreement (from 2022 and onwards) will be open-ended.

Aalborg University (AAU) as partner

HK has received a request by AAU to become an official member of IDA. This requires a modification of the agreement. The current partners agree that it is a good idea. AAU will appoint one member for the board. This must be approved by the ministry as well. HK does not expect this to change the budget. When AAU is approved as partner, the agreement will be signed.

Strategic goals for Danish membership of international research infrastructures

HK presents the work and the process. The focus is the use of the infrastructures – specifically for the Danish participation in ESO, ESA, and NOT. It was decided from the ministry and NUFI that strategic goals are needed for all infrastructures (also for CERN, etc.). The text is mainly formulated by the ministry based on a draft from IDA.

The actions following have not been discussed yet. Also, it is not clear if we will be ‘punished’ if goals/indicators are not met. It is not even clear who will evaluate if the indicators are not fulfilled. This is not optimal, but that is the process.

The goals are reviewed one-by-one. Many useful comments and a long discussion on the different points. Please send additional comments to JLR.

The goals will also have to be reviewed by the ministry again before it must be approved NUFI.

Action Item [2022.04-01] – HK/JLR will update the ‘Strategic goals’ document based on the comments from the board.

Annual Danish Astronomy Meeting (ADAM) 2022 (incl. WG9 status)

Sara Svendsen presents the meeting and the status on the preparations. Everyone is encouraged to sign-up.

IDA Board election

HK presents the current rules. They are indeed quite complicated! In the new IDA agreement, the election rules are not specified, but instead it is stated that they are set by the board.

The rules/guidelines should focus on diversity instead of (binary) gender. We need to still ensure diversity. It is suggested to raise awareness about diversity (following IAU), and otherwise to keep the rules “minimum one male, one female in each group”. That is the decision taken by the board.

Action Item [2022.04-02] – HK/JLR will update the IDA Board election rules and description

LSST, status and funding structure (incl. WG4 status)

Christa Gall gives a quick update. A two-day workshop was held in the beginning of April – that was a success with fruitful discussions. Two new WG members. With the current planned in-kind contribution, the outcome is data rights for approximately 65 researchers in Denmark. The current focus of the WG is to design and build the IDAC (data centre; our in-kind contribution).

HK reviews the funding structure and possibilities – see the circulated appendix. When the requirements for becoming a PI are decided, the application will be opened. It is important to secure the involvement of the departments. HK had a meeting with the department heads; they were overall very supportive. They would like to have a list of (potential) PIs from their own departments.

NOT, review in 2022 (incl. WG2 status)

HK gives a very brief status. A council meeting will be held in the beginning of May. The Danish funding is not in danger, but the ministry requires that we go through a review to document how we use the telescope. IDA will lead the review process.

A workshop will take place on La Palma this summer to discuss how to utilise the telescope in the future (for research, education, etc.).

Johan Fynbo reports on the status on the NTE. It is progressing but delayed. The main problem is the lack of people and capacity at the NBI workshop.

ESO, status and HIRES/ANDES (incl. WG1 and WG5 status)

Allan Hornstrup presents the status of ESO and especially ELT. Delayed by the corona-situation and by bankruptcy of the dome-construction company. Slight increase in costs. There has been a discussion about adding new member states.

ESO 60-year anniversary celebration on 15 September. The day must be planned. Details will come.

IDA should invite the minister to increase awareness. Preferably Chile, maybe ALMA; as a backup, the ESO Supernova in Germany. It must be negotiated with the ministry to secure a reasonable program (especially if in Chile).

Lise Christensen gives an update on ANDES (the instrument formerly known as HIRES). Phase B will begin with a kick-off in a couple of days. In the middle of 2024, a review will be conducted of the secured funding from the different member states. The suggested Danish members of the science team are Lise Christensen, Johan Fynbo, Lars Buchhave, and Simon Albrecht. Currently, the suggested Danish contribution is 5% of the total instrument cost.

Status on projects

Skipped because of the time limit. JLR will request updates from the WG leaders by email to be included below (not including WGs with status given earlier).

WG 3 (space-based astrophysics / ESA)

Nothing to report.

WG 6 (GLT)

Nothing to report.

WG 10 (Astronomical models and data analysis)

Nothing to report.

WG 7 (ESO outreach and the IDA website)

The website should be reviewed and updated.

WG 8 (IDA observing school)

Nothing to report.

WG 11 (Relations to international organisations)

IAU (International Astronomical Society): IAU has its 31st General Assembly (IAUGA2022) from 2-11 August 2022 in Busan, South Korea in a hybrid format. A call for new members (Ordinary and junior) has been sent out by Jørgen Christensen Dalsgaard.

EAS (European Astronomical Society): The yearly EAS astronomy meeting which is the largest European Astronomy meeting will be held in Valencia, Spain in 2022

(<https://eas.unige.ch/EAS2022/index.jsp>). EAS has now more than 4400 members. There are 80 EAS members working in Denmark.

The Journal Astronomy&Astrophysics (A&A) has now an impact factor of 5.8 and remains one of the leading research original journals. A&A has now, as of April 2022 moved to the Subscribe-to-Open (S2O) open access model. This means that A&A has received the required level of support and will be published open access from 2022 (<https://www.aanda.org/component/content/article/11-news/2503-a-a-confirms-open-access-in-2022-through-subscribe-to-open>).

AOB

Skipped. Any information to be circulated can be sent to JLR.

Meeting ended 16:07.

Action Items

A list of open items with those in charge highlighted:

- Action Item [2022.04-01] - HK/JLR will update the 'Strategic goals' document based on the comments from the board.
- Action Item [2022.04-02] - HK/JLR will update the IDA Board election rules and description.