

PREFACE

The 12th Asia-Pacific IAU Regional Meeting (APRIM) was held at Daejeon, Korea during August 18 - 22, 2014. It was our great pleasure to host this meeting in this modern and beautiful city, Daejeon. About 600 participants from 26 countries and nationalities were gathered at the Daejeon Convention Center near the Gap-Cheon river, which is not far from the Korea Astronomy and Space Science Institute (KASI).

The latest scientific achievements and technical development from the Asian-Pacific region were introduced. Its scientific program featured 11 plenary reviews, 98 invited talks, 146 contributed talks, and 293 posters, in the principal disciplines in astronomy: (I) Solar System and Sun-Earth Interactions, (II) Interstellar Matter, Star Formation and the Milky Way, (III) Stars, Exoplanets and Stellar Systems, (IV) Galaxies, AGN and Cosmology, (V) Compact Objects and High Energy Astrophysics, (VI) Large Observing Facilities and Instruments, and (VII) Historical Astronomy, Astronomy Education and Public Outreach. Astronomical activities are growing rapidly in the region, and this meeting included presentations and discussions to promote regional collaboration with special regard to involvement in global astronomy projects. Today, large astronomical projects require collaboration among countries as an essential element to be successful.

I think the APRIM aims to provide an opportunity to promote friendship among countries as well as scientific activities in this Asian-Pacific region. The emerging astronomical societies will be important institutions in the future, not only for the facilities they may provide, but also for their human resources. Therefore, we prepared this meeting as a forum to promote regional collaborations and manpower exchanges. Public outreach programs have also been included to promote astronomy for the general public. Discussions and presentations on astronomical education programs in the region were an important part of this meeting.

APRIM has been convened every 3 years, and expands its scale every time. Continuing the success of the APRIM 2011, held at Chiang Mai, Thailand, APRIM 2014 was a great success, I think, and I appreciate all people who planned, prepared, and participated in this meeting. I expect another successful meeting of APRIM 2017 at Taipei, Taiwan.

As a chair of the APRIM 2014 SOC, I appreciate all SOC members who gave a great amount of input in making programs and planning this meeting. The SOC was composed of representatives of the region: Hidehiko Agata (Japan), Mhd Fairis Asillam (Malaysia), Michael Burton (Australia), Chul-Sung Choi (Korea), Shuhrat A. Ehgamberdiev (Uzbekistan), Gregory Fahlan (Canada), Toshihiro Handa (Japan), Masahiko Hayashi (Japan), Xiaoyu Hong (China), Wing-Huen Ip (Taiwan), Young-Woon Kang (Korea), Busaba Hutawarakorn Kramer (Thailand), Sun Kwok (Hong Kong), Nguyen Quynh Lan (Vietnam), Hyung Mok Lee (Korea), Steve Maddox (New Zealand), Hakim L. Malasan (Indonesia), Young Chol Minh (Korea), Chingis Omarov (Kazakhstan), Tushar Prabhu (India), Shengbang Qian (China), David Ruffolo (Thailand), Harinder P. Singh (India), Boonrucksar Soonthornthum

(Thailand), Ronald E. Taam (Taiwan), John L. Tonry (USA), Irina Voloshina (Russia), Peter Wood (Australia), and Gang Zhao (China). I specially thank Norio Kaifu, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) President, Thierry Montmerle, the IAU General Secretary, and several IAU staff members related to this meeting, who gave us great help in preparing this meeting from the beginning to the final closing ceremony.

I have to heartily thank the LOC of APRIM 2014 for their devoted work for this meeting. The LOC consists of Cheongho Han (Chungbuk National University), Hoil Kim (KASI), Jounghun Lee (Seoul National University), Dae-Young Lee (Chungbuk National University), Myeong-Gu Park (Kyungpook National University), Myungshin Im (Seoul National University), Seogu Lee (KASI), Soo-Chang Rey (Chungnam National University), Soyong Hong (KASI), Sungki Cho (KASI), Yonggi Kim (Chungbuk National University), Yong-Jae Moon (Kyung Hee University), and Young-Jong Sohn (Yonsei University). Hoil Kim chaired the LOC, and Seogu Lee, Fred S. Song and a team from Genicom managed the overall events very successfully, so the 4-day meeting proceeded very nicely, including the memorable and cheerful dancing together party in the conference dinner on Wednesday. I also thank many young volunteers from various universities who gave big help in running all programs.

APRIM 2014 was made possible financially thanks to the support of KASI, IAU, Daejeon City, and Daejeon International Marketing Enterprise. This meeting was also supported by the Korean Astronomical Society and Korean Space Science Society. KASI has been putting great effort into working in close cooperation with institutes and universities from around the Asian-Pacific region, and celebrated its 40th anniversary with this meeting.

Finally I thank all presenters and participants of APRIM 2014, who made this meeting very successful. I hope to see you all again in Korea soon. Thank you very much!

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