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ARMENIAN
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

ArAS Newsletter



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LOCAL NEWS

BOOK PRESENTATION

“Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory. 75 years of outstanding achievements”

On January 27, the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory (BAO) celebrated the book presentation “Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory. 75 years of outstanding achievements” dedicated to the 75th anniversary of BAO.

This is a unique book presenting the history of the Observatory (Yerevan-2021, 464 pages).

It consists of 2 parts: scientific and informative. The scientific part covers the most important scientific results achieved during the year 1946-2021. 22 scientific papers are grouped in 4 sections named “Stars and Nebulae”, “Extragalactic astronomy”, “Theoretical Astrophysics” and “Other Studies”.

The informative section presents the 75-year history of BAO, the biography of its founder, one of the greatest scientists of the 20th century Viktor Ambartsumian. It also contains information about BAO 2.6 m, 1 m Schmidt and other telescopes, lists scientific or popular events organized by BAO and etc.

The presentation was attended by BAO researchers and employees of other departments, representatives of different libraries, namely from the National Library of Armenia and the Library of the Armenian State Pedagogical University after Khachatur Abovyan (ASPU), as well as other guests.



BAO Director Areg Mickaelian, who's also the editor-in-chief of the book, opened the event. In his speech, A. Mickaelian presented the content and the structure of the book, as well as introduced the researchers who participated in its composition. This was followed by the distribution of the copies to those present.

To make the book available to the public, BAO donated copies of the book to the National Library of Armenia and the library of the ASPU.

In the near future copies will be sent to other libraries of Armenia and Artsakh as well to replenish the book on BAO.



BAO Director Areg Mickaelian at the book presentation. BAO. 2022

We hope that the book will be useful for professional astronomers and astrophysicists, astronomy students, specialists in the history of science and all those interested in science.

The Annual Meeting of the European Astronomical Society Took Place

The annual meeting of the heads of astronomical companies, members of the Executive Board of the European Astronomical Society (EAS), took place online. The meeting was chaired by EAS President, Prof. Roger L. Davies.

The meeting was attended by 29 member companies, including the Armenian Astronomical Society (ArAS). It should be noted that the ArAS has been a member of the EAS since 2001, the year of its establishment.

During the meeting, the policy of the EAS was discussed, the annual reports of astronomical societies were presented, and the cooperation between the societies was discussed.

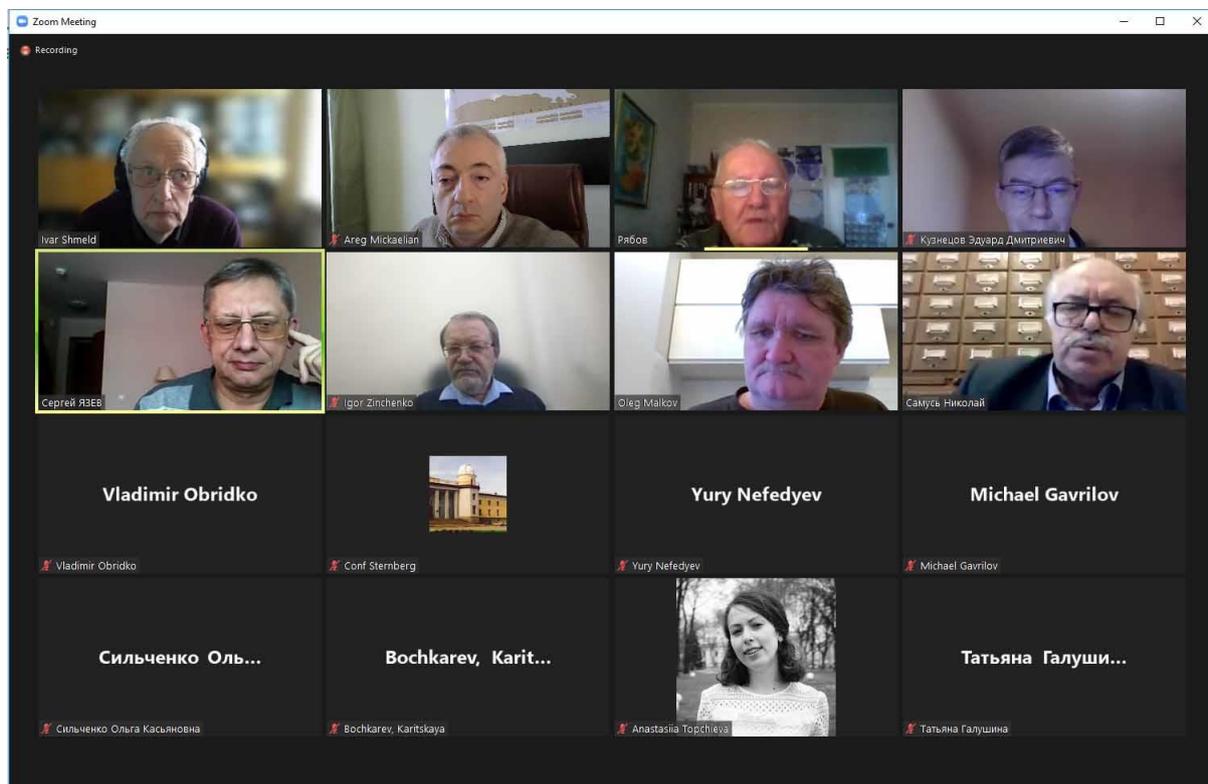
Areg Mickaelian, the current president of ArAS, the Director of BAO, presented a report on “ArAS Activities 2021”, summarizing the previous year’s activities.

The [EAS](#), founded in 1990, is a society of individual members. It promotes and advances astronomy in Europe. The EAS holds annual meetings, has established a number of awards, and publishes newsletters.

Areg Mickaelian Participated in the Session of the Board of the Eurasian Astronomical Society

Areg Mickaelian, the director of the BAO and the current president of the Armenian Astronomical Society (ArAS), participated at the online meeting of the Eurasian Astronomical Society's (EAAS) Board of Directors, which took on January 21. The session was chaired by EAAS Co-Chair Nikolai Samus.

The meeting of the Board of Directors held the following questions: Report on the work of the Board, the development of astronomy in Ukraine, the work of the Astrocourier newsletter, the results of the re-registration of EAAS members, the activity of the journal "Astronomical and Astrophysical Transactions", astronomical Olympiads, EAAS awards and so forth.



EAAS Board of Directors' Meeting 2022

It should be noted that the EAAS is the legal successor of the former Soviet Union Astronomical Society, uniting astronomers from a number of European, Asian countries, as well as many other countries.

ArAS actively cooperates with EAAS and is its official representative in Armenia.

The Most Important Astronomy Related Abbreviations

The names of famous astronomical institutions and their abbreviations, which are often found in the press releases issued by ArAS and BAO are now at hand in two languages (Armenian and English).

English		Հայերեն	
Abbreviation	Full Name	Հապավում	Ամբողջական անվանում
BAO	Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory	ԲԱ	Բյուրականի աստղադիտարան
ArAS	Armenian Astronomical Society	ՀԱԸ	Հայկական աստղագիտական ընկերություն
ArVO	Armenian Virtual Observatory	ՀՎԱ	Հայկական վիրտուալ աստղադիտարան
ComBAO	Communications of BAO	ԲԱ հաղորդումներ	Բյուրականի աստղադիտարանի հաղորդումներ
NAS RA	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia	ՀՀ ԳԱԱ	Հայաստանի Հանրապետության գիտությունների ազգային ակադեմիա
UNESCO MOW	UNESCO "Memory of the World" Documentary Heritage International Register		ՅՈՒՆԵՍԿՕ-ի «Աշխարհի հիշողություն» փաստագրական ժառանգություն միջազգային գրանցամատյան
IAU	International Astronomical Union	ՄԱՄ	Միջազգային աստղագիտական միություն
IAU SWCA ROAD	IAU South West and Central Asian Regional Office of Astronomy for Development	ՄԱՄ ՀԱԿԱ ԱԶՏԳ	ՄԱՄ Հարավարևմտյան և Կենտրոնական Ասիայի տարածաշրջանային աստղագիտական կենտրոն
OAD	Office of Astronomy for Development		Աստղագիտությունը զարգացման համար գրասենյակ
OAE	Office of Astronomy for Education		Աստղագիտական կրթության գրասենյակ
OAH	Outstanding Astronomical Heritage		Նշանավոր աստղագիտական ժառանգություն
OAO	Office of Astronomy for Outreach		Աստղագիտության հանրայնացման գրասենյակ
EAAS	Euro-Asian Astronomical Society	ԵԱԱԸ	Եվրասիական աստղագիտական ընկերություն
EAS	European Astronomical Society	ԵԱԸ	Եվրոպական աստղագիտական ընկերություն
IPDA	International Planetary Data Alliance	ՄՏՄԱ	Մոլորակային տվյալների միջազգային ալյանս
ASP	Astronomical Society of the Pacific	ԽՕԱԸ	Խաղաղօվկիանոսյան աստղագիտական ընկերություն
ISC	International Science Council		Միջազգային գիտական խորհուրդ
IVOA	International Virtual Observatory Alliance		Վիրտուալ աստղադիտարանների միջազգային ալյանս

Sync Your Calendar with the Cosmic Events

ARMENIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Հայկական Աստղագիտական Ընկերություն

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[2012](#) | [2013](#) | [2014](#) | [2015](#) | [2016](#) | [2017](#) | [2018](#) | [2019](#) | [2020](#) | [2021](#) | **2022** | [Lunar Eclipses](#) | [Solar Eclipses](#) | [Triple Conjunctions](#) | [Periodic Comets](#)

Բոլոր իրադարձությունները / All events Միջազգային իրադարձություններ / International events
Երկնային երևույթներ / Sky events Հայկական աստղագիտության իրադարձություններ / Armenian astronomy events

	Ամսաթիվ/Date	Իրադարձության անվանումը	Name of event
	Քունակ/Jan 03-04	Զվարդնաստիղների ատակային հոսքը	Quadrantids Meteor Shower. The Quadrantids are an above average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower usually peaks on January 3 and 4, but some meteors can be visible from January 1 - 5. The near last quarter moon will hide many of the fainter meteors with its glare. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Look for meteors radiating from the constellation Bootes.
	Քունակ/Jan 04	Երկիրն արևամերձ կետում	Earth in Perihelion
	Քունակ/Jan 05	Լուսնի և Յուպիտերի միացում	Conjunction of the Moon and Jupiter
	Քունակ/Jan 07	Մերկուրիի արևելյան առավելագույն հեռացում	Mercury at Its Greatest Eastern Elongation
	Քունակ/Jan 08	Սթիվեն Դոյքինգի 80-ամյակը (1942-2018)	Stephen Hawking - 80th anniversary (1942-2018)
	Քունակ/Jan 12	Նոբելյան մրցանակակիր Միշել Մայորի (Շվեյցարիա) 80-ամյակը	Nobel Prize Winner Michel Mayor's (Switzerland) - 80th anniversary
	Քունակ/Jan 17	Լիարևին (ևսև «գայլի լուսին»)	Full Moon (known as the Wolf Moon)
	Քունակ/Jan 18	Անահիտ Ավետիզի Երիզազարյանի 70-ամյակը (ԲԱ Լաիկին աշխատակից)	Anahit Yeghiazarian - 70th anniversary (BAO former employee)
	Քունակ/Jan 21	United Launch Alliance-ը Ատլաս V իրթիղը ԱՄՆ Տիեզերական ուժերի գեոսինքրոն տիեզերական իրավիճակային իրազեկման ծրագրի համար կարճակի հինգերորդ և վեցերորդ	A United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket will launch the fifth and sixth satellites for the U.S. Space Force's Geosynchronous Space Situational Awareness Program, in a mission titled USSF

We are happy to let you know that Calendar of Celestial Events 2022 and Calendar of International Astronomy Events 2022 are already available on Armenian Astronomical Society's (ArAS) website. The calendars are bilingual: Armenian and English.

Go ahead and sync your calendar with the [cosmic events!](#)

ANNIVERSARIES

Anahit Yeghiazarian's 70th Anniversary



Anahit Yeghiazarian

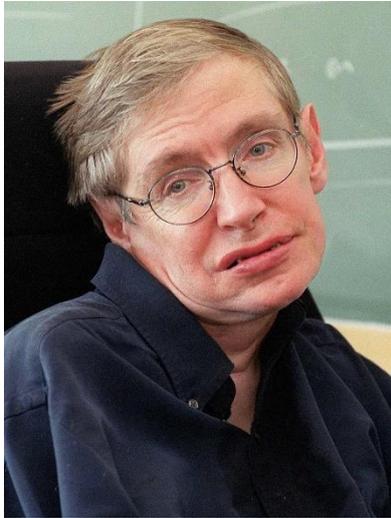
On January 18, BAO former researcher Anahit Yeghiazarian celebrated her 70th anniversary.

Anahit Yeghiazarian was born on January 18, 1952. She worked at the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory from 1974 to 2019.

She took her Ph.D. degree in 1987. Since 1988, A. Yeghiazarian was a research associate of BAO. She is a specialist in AGNs and starburst galaxies having some 20 papers on these topics. A. Yeghiazarian is a member of ArAS since 2001.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Stephen Hawking's 80th Anniversary



Stephen Hawking

On January 8, Stephen Hawking would celebrate his 80th anniversary (1942-2018). He was born in 1942 in Oxford, England. Fascinated by how the universe functioned from a young age, his curiosity and intellect earned him the nickname “Einstein.” Following a diagnosis with a neurodegenerative disease at 21, the music of composer Richard Wagner and the loving support of his future wife Jane Wilde motivated Hawking to dedicate himself to physics, math, and cosmology.

Stephen Hawking was one of history's most influential scientific minds, English cosmologist, author, and theoretical physicist. From colliding black holes to the Big Bang, his theories on the origins and mechanics of the universe revolutionized modern physics while his best-selling books made the field widely accessible to millions of readers worldwide.

In 1965, Hawking defended his doctoral thesis at the University of Cambridge, “Properties of Expanding Universes,” which presented the revolutionary theory that space and time originated from a singularity, a point both infinitely small and dense, best known today as the key characteristic of black holes. That year, Hawking was accepted as a research fellow at Cambridge's Gonville and Caius College. Hawking's obsession with black holes led to his 1974 discovery that particles could escape black holes. This theory, coined Hawking radiation, is widely considered his most important contribution to physics.

In 1979, Hawking's groundbreaking work on black holes prompted Cambridge to appoint him as the Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, a position held by Isaac Newton in 1669. Hawking's doctoral thesis was released to the public in 2017 on a University of Cambridge website, which crashed due to enormous amounts of traffic.

Google paid tribute to the renowned scientist creating an alteration of the search engine's logo for his birthday. Check out the famous [Google Doodle](#).

Michel Mayor's 80th Anniversary



Michel Mayor
© Nobel Media. Photo: A. Mahmoud

On 12 January, Nobel Prize winner Michel Mayor celebrated his 80th anniversary.

Michel Mayor was born on 12 January 1942, in Lausanne, Switzerland. After studying at the University of Lausanne, he attended the Geneva Observatory, which is affiliated with the University of Geneva. He earned his doctorate in Astronomy in 1971 and became a professor in 1988. He has worked for periods at the University of Cambridge, the European Southern Observatory in Chile and the University of Hawaii.

Mayor's early research focused on binary stars, open and globular clusters, and the structure and evolution of the Milky Way Galaxy.

M. Mayor was awarded the [2019 Nobel Prize](#) for Physics for his discovery with Swiss astronomer Didier Queloz of the first known extrasolar planet orbiting a Sun-like star. Mayor and Queloz received one half of the prize; the other half was awarded to Canadian-born American physicist James Peebles.

Michel Mayor was the first winner of the [Victor Ambartsumian International Science Prize](#) in 2010 together with his teammates Nuno Santos and Garik Israelian. Now he is a member of the International Steering Committee.

ArAS News is the electronic newsletter of the Armenian Astronomical Society. It was distributed to all ArAS members from the beginning of 2002, 4 times a year, typically at the end of each trimester. In 2009-2014, 8 issues annually and since 2015, 12 issues annually have been released.

ArASNews publishes information materials on ArAS, Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory and the Armenian astronomy in general, reports on ArAS Annual Meetings and participation of the Armenian astronomers in important international meetings, articles on occasion of anniversaries of famous Armenian astronomers and ArAS members, acceptance of new ArAS members, achievements of the Armenian astronomers, astronomical education in Armenia, Armenian archaeoastronomy, as well as science articles (reviews) on important studies.

So, if you want to share your studies with the scientific community, send us your articles to melin.asryan@gmail.com. They will be reviewed for the publication in ArAS Newsletters next issues.

[ArAS Newsletter issues](#) are available online.