

ArAS News

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ARMENIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (A r A S)

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CONTENTS:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. ArAS membership statistics | 2 |
| 2. Astronomy for Students DVD | 3 |
| 3. ISYA-2010 in Byurakan | 4 |

The ArAS Newsletter in the INTERNET: <http://www.aras.am/ArasNews/arasnews.html>

ArAS MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

ArAS was created in 1999 at a meeting of 16 BAO astronomers. However, it was officially registered in 2001. For this, a second meeting was held in 2001, where 16 founding members (some of them different from 1999) were present. Therefore, the first ArAS members were accepted in 1999 and the founding members are since 1999 or 2001. The numbers of ArAS members by years and the dynamics of the growth of the membership (the cumulative numbers) are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

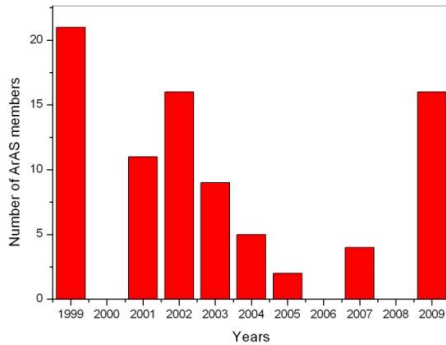


Fig.1. Numbers of ArAS members by years

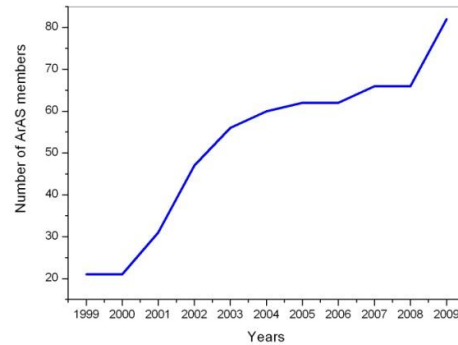


Fig. 2. Dynamics of ArAS membership

In 1999, 21 members were accepted. Then more members joined in 2001 and 2002 after the second foundation (11) and at the I Annual Meeting (16). After that the numbers of new members were not large and only in 2009 (in connection with the International Year of Astronomy) we accepted 16 new members, including members from new countries.

Altogether we had 84 astronomers who joined ArAS. The two deceased members were Vazgen Panajian and Armen Oskanian. And at present there are 82 members from 18 countries. The table gives the statistics of ArAS members by countries.

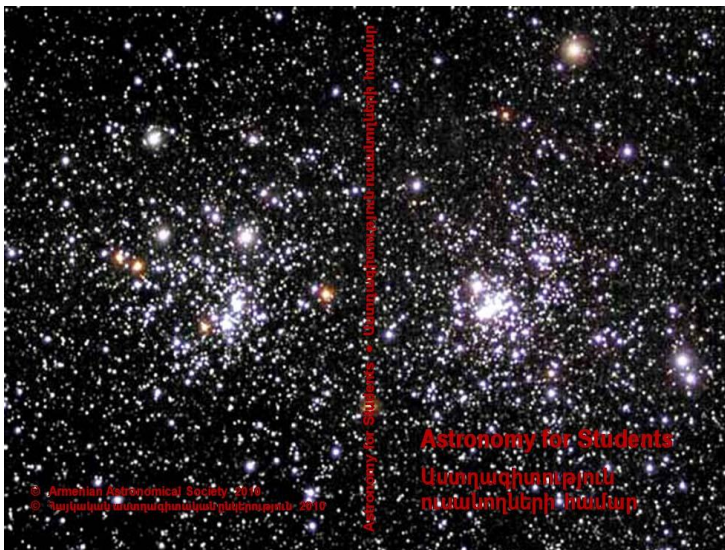
| Countries | Institutions | ArAS members | | | | Years |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------|
| | | Founding | Full | Junior | All | |
| Armenia | 7 | 15 | 30 | 4 | 49 | 1999-2009 |
| USA | 6 | 1 | 8 | | 9 | 2001-2007 |
| Mexico | 2 | | 3 | | 3 | 2002-2003 |
| Russia | 1 | | 3 | | 3 | 2005-2009 |
| France | 3 | | 3 | | 3 | 2009 |
| Italy | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | 2001-2009 |
| Germany | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | 2002-2004 |
| Spain | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2001 |
| Jordan | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2002 |
| Canada | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2003 |
| Netherlands | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2003 |
| South Korea | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2003 |
| Bulgaria | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| Chile | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| Greece | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| Hungary | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| Romania | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| UK | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2009 |
| All (18 countries) | 34 | 16 | 62 | 4 | 82 | 1999-2009 |

Thus we have 49 members in Armenia and 33 members from other countries. Out of the 49 members from Armenia, 35 are present or former BAO associates, 6 are from the Yerevan State University, and 4 are from the Yerevan Physics Institute. Taking into account its wide membership, ArAS may be in fact considered as an international organization.

*Areg Mickaelian,
Co-President of ArAS*

ASTRONOMY for STUDENTS DVD

A DVD “Astronomy for Students” has been created to support astronomy education of the students from the Yerevan State University (YSU) and the Armenian State Pedagogical University (ASPU). It is a collection of useful information, including scanned or downloaded from Internet 90 (!) textbooks, practical exercises, 8 astronomical encyclopedia and dictionaries, latest review papers, lectures from summer schools (including the Byurakan International Summer Schools 2006 and 2008), talks at recent meetings and other presentations, 3D atlas of the Universe, astronomical catalogs, software (including SciSoft VII), photos, movies, information on BAO, Viktor Ambartsumian, etc.



The main formats of the books and papers are djvu and pdf. The presentations are in MS Powerpoint (ppt). Most of the materials are in English which may help our students to learn the astronomical terminology in English as well. Other materials are in Russian (textbooks) and Armenian. The DVD may be used for educational and scientific purposes as well as may be copied and freely distributed.

Areg Mickaelian

ISYA-2010 in BYURAKAN



Only 15 days are left to the deadline for applications for the **3rd Byurakan International Summer School (3BISS)** combined with the **32nd International School for Young Astronomers (ISYA-2010)**. The school will take place on 12 September – 2 October, 2010, in Byurakan (Armenia).

Upper-level University students and post-graduate students are eligible to apply for participation. In exclusive cases, some excellent B.Sc. students will also be accepted. The students must have a working knowledge of English which will be the official language of the school, as well as sufficient level in physics and mathematics. A maximum of 30 students will be selected.

The IAU will cover travel expenses of the participants (visa, insurance, and air fare). BAO will provide free accommodation at the observatory hotel. ArAS provides meals and coffee breaks during the school, as well as other expenses (social events, participants' kits, administration expenses).

Deadlines

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| April 15, 2010 | Deadline for Applications and Letters of Recommendation |
| May 1, 2010 | Applicants are informed about the outcome of decisions |
| May 1, 2010 | 2 nd Announcement with tentative program and list of participants |
| July 15, 2010 | 3 rd Announcement with detailed program |
| 12 Sep – 2 Oct, 2010 | ISYA-2010 in Byurakan, Armenia |

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