

SOCIETY MATTERS

From the Secretary

The Next General Body Meeting of ASI to be held on February 10, 2006:

The issue of holding the annual ASI-GBM was discussed at the GBM on 23rd February 2005 during the 23rd ASI meeting, Nainital. It was suggested that ASI-GBM could be held during the National Space Science Symposium (NSSS) which is organised in the alternate years when ASI meeting is not convened.

This is to announce that the 24th ASI-GBM will be held on February 10, 2006 during NSSS-2006 (*February 9-12, 2006*) at Andhra University, Waltair. A session in Astronomy is also being planned during this symposium. Members of ASI are requested to mark these dates and make it convenient to attend the meeting.

Agenda of the 24th Meeting of the General Body to be held on February 10, 2006 during 17:30 - 18:30 hrs at Andhra University, Waltair :

- Opening remarks by the President
- Confirmation of the minutes of the 23rd GBM held at Nainital on 23rd February 2005
- Report for the Year 2005 by the Secretary on the activities of ASI including matters pertaining to membership of ASI and awards of the Society etc.
- Report by the Editor of the Bulletin of the ASI
- Report by the Treasurer – presentation of the audited accounts for the FY 2004-05, and budget proposal for the Year 2006-07
- Discussion on a proposal for a new Asian-Pacific Journal for Astrophysics
- Any other matter with the permission of the Chair
- Concluding Remarks by the President
- Vote of Thanks.

Awards of the Society :

Nominations are invited for the following awards of the Society. Further details are provided in the accompanying announcements of these awards.

New Discovery Award : An award for the discoveries of comets, asteroids, novae, supernovae and any other astrophysical phenomena made by an Indian National in India. There is no age restriction for this award. Nominations are invited for the discovery made during the period 2001-2004.

Justice V.G. Oak Award 2005 for Outstanding Thesis in Astronomy : An award for outstanding Ph.D. thesis in Astronomy by an Indian student engaged in research in astronomy, astrophysics, planetary sciences and allied fields. The thesis should have been formally submitted in the year 2004.

Membership matters

I am happy to inform that the membership of the Astronomical Society of India has crossed the 1000 mark this year. However, it has been observed that a large number of persons are not regularly paying annual membership subscriptions. Please note that the annual subscription of the Regular, Associate and Student categories of membership becomes due on the 1st day of each calendar year.

Persons who have not paid their annual subscriptions are requested to contact the treasurer, Prof. R.C. Kapoor, to ascertain the outstanding dues to be paid for continuation of their membership. The existing Regular Members may give their option to become LIFE member to the treasurer, for which the prescribed subscription would be payable. As resolved by the 23rd GBM in Nainital, those who fail to pay the arrears by the end of the year 2005 will be considered to have lost their membership.

Directory of ASI Members

It is being planned to bring out a directory of the ASI members. Please send your contact details in the format given. Those of you who have already responded to my previous request, made in the March 2004 issue of the **Bull. A.S.I.**, need not send these details again, unless there is a need for update.

- Ashok Ambastha

To,
Dr. Ashok Ambastha
Secretary, ASI
Udaipur Solar Observatory
Physical Research Laboratory
P.O. Box No. 198
Udaipur 313001 (India)

Last Name : _____ First Name : _____

Membership Type _____ No. _____

Email : _____

Telephone : _____ Fax : _____

Institutional Affiliation (if any) _____

Institutional Address : _____

Postal Address : _____

Date :

Signature :

(This information may also be sent by email to : ambastha@prl.res.in)



Astronomical Society of India
Justice Oak Award 2005 for
Outstanding Thesis in Astronomy

The Astronomical Society of India (ASI) invites nominations for the Justice V.G. Oak Award 2005 for outstanding Ph.D. thesis in Astronomy by an Indian student. The thesis should have been formally submitted in the previous year of the award, i.e., in the year 2004.

The objectives of the award is to encourage excellence amongst research students in India, and the award is given on the adjudication by a Standing Committee appointed by the ASI. The award consists of books and a medal.

The nominations should include a summary of the scientific work constituting the thesis, a statement regarding why the nominator considers the thesis outstanding, the curriculum vitae of the candidate and a signed letter by the nominator.

The nominations for this award may be made by senior scientists, Directors or Heads of institutes or observatories engaged in research in astronomy, astrophysics, planetary sciences and allied fields.

Nominations must reach the address given below by **31st December 2005**.

Dr. Ashok Ambastha
Secretary, Astronomical Society of India,
Udaipur Solar Observatory
Physical Research Laboratory
P.O. Box No. 198
Udaipur-313 001 (India).

Email: ambastha@prl.res.in

More information can be obtained at **<http://www.prl.res.in/~asi/awards.html>**

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Astronomical Society of India

New Discovery Award

The Astronomical Society of India invites nominations for the New Discovery Award.

In order to recognise and appreciate the achievements of the Indian astronomers, the Society has instituted this award for the discoveries of comets, asteroids, novae, supernovae and any other astrophysical phenomena. This award consists of a cash prize of Rs.2000/-, a medal and a citation.

The prerequisite for this New Discovery Award is that the discovery should have been made by an Indian National in India. The proof and authenticity of the discovery should be provided by the one who stakes claim for the award. There is no age restriction for this award.

The nominations for this award may be made by Heads of Institutions, Directors of Observatories, Heads of Departments or Senior Scientists. Each nomination, including all the supporting documents, should be submitted in quadruplicate to the Secretary of the Society for discovery made during 2001-2004. The nomination must be dated and signed by the proposer.

Nominations must reach the address given below by **31st December 2005**.

Dr. Ashok Ambastha
Secretary, Astronomical Society of India,
Udaipur Solar Observatory
Physical Research Laboratory
P.O. Box No. 198
Udaipur-313 001 (India).

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