

SOCIETY MATTERS

- The next meeting of the ASI will be held at Trivandrum on Feb. 20-22, 2013 and will be hosted jointly by IISER and IIST. More details will be circulated in coming months.
- The election of the executive council of the ASI is to be held this year. We invite nominations for the nominating committee. The committee makes nominations for the positions of the ASI President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and councillors. The nomination committee consists of the president, the immediate past president and three elected councillors of whom one is chosen from the current executive council. The president is the convenor of the nomination committee and the term of the committee is three years. The name of nominee shall be put on the ballot paper only if it has been proposed by at least two Regular members and provided the nominee has given his/her written consent. Therefore you are requested to obtain the consent and send it along with the nomination. The nominations are to be sent to the Secretary. The last date for sending the nominations is July 20, 2012.
- The society plans to support up to two ASI symposia each year. Proposals are invited from ASI members on the specified format, available on the society web page.
- Nominations are invited for the Justice Oak best thesis award for 2010. The society gives the Justice V.G. Oak Award for outstanding Ph.D. thesis in Astronomy by an Indian student. 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. The thesis should have been formally submitted in the year preceeding the year of the award (2009). The award consists of books and a medal.

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 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 last date for receipt of nominations is July 31, 2012. Nominations should be sent to the secretary of the society.

- Nominations are invited for the new discovery award. Indian astronomers who have discovered a comet, an asteroid, a nova or a supernova are eligible. More details about the award are available on the society web pages. Nominations should be sent to the secretary of the society.

J. S. Bagla
Secretary
Astronomical Society of India