

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP OF JUNIOR MEMBERS

Co-chairs of the OC: Camilo Delgado-Correal & Hannah Stacey  
Organising Committee - OC: Anupam Bhardwaj, Hongwei Ge, Brianna Smart, Sabine Thater, Jeremy Tregloan-Reed, Stefan Wallner & Mustafa K. Yildiz

### ANNUAL REPORT 2022–2023

The Working Group (WG) of IAU Junior Members (JMs) focuses on topics that are crucial to early career astronomers across the globe. This includes careers, teaching, mobility, wellbeing, financial security, transparency and diversity. JMs represent the majority of active astronomers worldwide, which represent the future of the field, but also provide an invaluable influx of skilled workers to all branches of society.

The OC meets approximately every 2 months and has ongoing communication via the OC Slack space. In total, from August 2022 to June 2023, we had 6 meetings.

We have various social media channels to facilitate communication to our members and other early career researchers (ECRs). A summary of these channels are as follows:

- Slack space (348 members)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/IAUJuniorMember> ; 266 followers)
- Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/IAUJuniorMember> ; 91 followers)
- YouTube ([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZQsB5LY2Tv\\_tj9ddVdnPuw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZQsB5LY2Tv_tj9ddVdnPuw) ; 309 subscribers, 100–500 views per video)
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/IAUJuniorMember> ; 181 followers)

The working group had four sessions at the **XXI IAU General Assembly** in Busan, Korea in August 2022. The topic and speakers of the sessions were as follows:

- IAU Outreach: Building Bridges Through Communication and International Cooperation & Public communications advice for young scientists: Lina Canas (CAP WG), Matipon Tangmatitham (NARIT), Lars Lindberg Christensen (CAP WG)
- Writing grant proposals: Your road to success & Writing grant and observing proposals: sharing my ESO and ERC experience: Richard de Grijs (MPIA), Vincenzo Mainieri (ESO)
- Scientific Writing for Astronomers: Choice of journal, Submission process, & Writing guide  
Scientific Writing for Astronomers: From Thinking to Paper Outline: Ethan Vishniac (Editor in Chief AAS Journals), Johan Knapen (IAC), Nushkia Chamba (The Oscar Klein)
- Networking/discussion meeting for junior members/early-career researchers: JMs

Website: [https://www.iauga2022.org/program/program\\_06\\_7.asp?sMenu=abo6](https://www.iauga2022.org/program/program_06_7.asp?sMenu=abo6)

During our sessions we had more participants in the writing sessions than in the outreach and the conversations. All the talks in each session were interesting and informative and provided attendees with tips and advice for engaging in writing and outreach. The focus of the advice was specifically targeted to young astronomers.

Some pictures related with our participation in the IAU GA 2022 appears at next:



XXXI<sup>st</sup> General Assembly  
International Astronomical Union  
**IAUGA 2022**  
August 2 (Tue) - 11 (Thu), 2022 | BEIXICO, Busan, Rep. of Korea

Now Watching

Junior Members

Program

Q&A

Help Desk

LOCAL TIME KOREA TIME  
01:17 | 15:17

Astronomy  
Astrophysics

XXXI<sup>st</sup> General Assembly  
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Junior Members

Program

Q&A

Help Desk

LOCAL TIME KOREA TIME  
03:34 | 17:34

XXXI<sup>st</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Astronomy for Everyone  
Access Communication Cooperation

XXXI<sup>st</sup> General Assembly  
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Now Watching

Junior Members

Program

Q&A

Help Desk

LOCAL TIME KOREA TIME  
04:45 | 18:45

DRB

In addition to the General Assembly sessions, we have continued the Discourse Series of talks aimed at Early Careers Astronomers. These talks cover topics including careers inside and outside astronomy, science highlights, public engagement, and professional development.

The Discourse series talk by Dr Vanessa Moss in April 2022 was held fully virtually in an AR environment. With many participants, people were able to interact with each other and join discussions with the panelist.

## Beyond academia: observatory-focused career pathways in astronomy



**Dr Vanessa Moss**

Friday April 8th, 2022

13:00-14:00 UTC / 14:00-15:00 BST / 15:00-16:00 CEST / 09:00-10:00 EST / 21:00-22:00 AWST

Join us inside AltspaceVR or on our YouTube live-stream! Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/2ymbtrcy>

As students coming up through the university system, our first introduction to careers in astronomy tends to be via the professors we encounter in our studies. It is thus natural to assume that becoming a tenured professor is the obvious career pathway if you want to pursue a career in astronomy, but there are diverse astronomy paths outside of the academic system worth considering which also make use of astronomy expertise and skill sets. My personal experience in astronomy has been as an observational radio astronomer working closely with telescopes, with the balance between research and operational focus changing over time, and I now oversee Science Operations for the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder. In this talk I'll give an overview of the ways in which you might be able to combine an astronomy background with a career in an observatory or observatory-focused research institution, as well as practical tips for broadening your experience and skills as an early career researcher.



Dr Vanessa Moss is an astronomer based at CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science. She is Head of Science Operations for the groundbreaking Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder and leads training of the next generation of radio astronomers in their work with the Australia Telescope Compact Array. She previously served as Head of Aperi! Telescope Operations for the newly-upgraded Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope and also worked with LOFAR. In her research, she studies cosmic phenomena across the Universe, from the hidden structure of the Milky Way halo to dense gas casting shadows against distant black holes.

