
These are the timely and well-edited proceedings of a colloquium dealing with the present state and the future of “communication” in astronomy. While communication in the past was mainly restricted to printed journals, conferences and colloquia, things have changed dramatically in the last decades. Journals have gone online, and runs of paper copies are slowly declining. 25 astronomers and representatives of various publishing institutions met in Brussels in June 2007 to discuss the future and the different options of information communication and exchange. 16 contributions are supplemented by summaries of discussions held at the meeting.

After a general overview of one of the organizers, who has played a key role in various aspects of information exchange, several representatives discuss future plans of their publications: K.B. Marvel presents the AAS journals (ApJ parts I and II, ApJS, AJ, which are just being transferred from the University of Chicago Press to Institute of Physics Publishing). P. Murdin represents the RAS and its main journal, the MNRAS.

“Open Access” is of course one of the key words of this conference. Producing a journal (either on paper or electronically) is expensive. For the AAS journals, these costs are shared between authors and subscribers. Future plans are to abandon “paper copies” at all, although “printable pages” will continue to be provided. For MNRAS, it is the subscribers who pay. And if it would have “open access”, authors would have to be charged for publication. Some research funding agencies demand that scientific results that they have sponsored should appear online, and freely available (at least after a certain time). Various approaches were outlined by representatives of publishers (Wiley-Blackwell, Springer, Elsevier, EDP Sciences). S. Plaszczynski introduced a project for “open access” in the field of high energy physics. To replace “repositories” and collections of “preprints” that may have never made it to the pages of journals for various reasons, a SCOAP model was initiated. This “Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics” will be a global network of funding agencies, laboratories and libraries that will provide the necessary funding for publishing material in the main journals for high energy physics (involving four publishers). M. Kurtz outlined the “Open access policy” of Smithsonian/NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS), while T. Mahoney voiced some caution, since open access may lead to a deterioration or even collapse of the publication process. W. B. Burton and H. A. Abt discussed long-term trends in research literature, while C. Madsen and L. L. Christensen discussed aspects of communication of specialists with politicians and the public.

We could only give a brief summary of this book. Many thought-provoking ideas simply defied being abstracted. Anyone who is interested in the publication process in astronomy and its aspects in the future will find a lot of interesting reading in these proceedings.

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The Future of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific Conference Series. Joseph Jensen. Astronomical Society of the Pacific Conference Series; Utah Valley University. The Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) has been publishing the proceedings of conferences in astronomy and astrophysics for more than twenty years. The ASP Conference Series (ASPCS) is widely known for its affordable and high quality printed volumes. The ASPCS is adapting to the changing market by making electronically published volumes available to subscribers around the world, including papers in the Astrophysics Data Sy à€˜Communicating astronomy to the public: the experience of the International Year of Astronomy 2009. A. Accomazzi (ed.), Future Professional Communication in Astronomy II, Astrophysics and Space Science Proceedings 1, DOI 10.1007/978-1-4419-8369-5, c Springer Science+Business Media, LLC 2011. 147. For authors. News. All open access proceedings journals. BIO Web of Conferences. ITM Web of Conferences. Creating an online training course for medical students to prepare them for professional communication in English 01030. Quality management system of professional training of students on the digital technology basis 01039. Irina I. Burlakova, Olga V. Gribkova, Marina M. Kononenko, Elena V. Skudnyakova and Sophia R. Sadekova. Published online: 08 February 2021.