

**Session: [B3B-3] S7 : Historical Astronomy, Astronomy Education and Public Outreach**

**Date:** August 20, 2014 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 14:00~15:30

**Room:** Room C (Room 104)

**Chair:** Thilina Heenatigala (Universe Awareness)

**[B3B-3-1]**

**14:00~14:15**

**The Need of Distant Learning for Astronomy Development in Indonesia**

Avivah Yamani (Langitselatan, Indonesia), Hakim. L. Malasan

Astronomy is a popular topic for public in term of astronomy phenomenon such as Occultation, Solar and Lunar eclipses or meteor showers. In term of education, astronomy also is popular as one of world's Science Olympiads. Social media as the new trend in communicating and connecting people, plays significant role to increase the number of astronomy community. Beyond IYA 2009, more and more astronomy activities have been done in many places in Indonesia. New astronomy community has been formed in several cities and public engagement also high in social media especially in Facebook and Twitter. As of September 2013, we had 25 active astronomy accounts on Twitter to share and educate public.

In this paper, we will discuss about the lesson learn of astronomy outreach achievement in Indonesia and the need of citizen science project as a distant learning for public as part of astronomy development in Indonesia. We argue and propose that this project will be also important up to regional scope.

**[B3B-3-2]**

**14:15~14:30**

**Enhancing the Teaching Astronomy in Schools Through Workshop for Teachers**

Lau Chen Chen (National Space Agency of Malaysia, Malaysia)

The Malaysian Space Agency (ANGKASA) with cooperation of the Ministry of Education of Malaysia has been organized the Astronomy Workshop for Primary and Secondary School Teachers since 2008 at the National Planetarium. The workshop was organized to provide science teachers about the basic knowledge of astronomy in accordance to the school syllabus, with the hope that they acquiring sufficient knowledge and preparing them in the field of astronomy for enhancement of their teaching activities in school. In this workshop, teachers will be introduced experienced night sky simulations in our space theater, planetarium show, daytime and night time observation activities, hands on activities, visit to planetarium's observatory and exhibition gallery. Besides that, in this workshop they will share teaching experience with planetarium staffs. Educational materials also distributed to all the teachers as their reference in their teaching class. In this paper presentation, we would like to show how National Planetarium plays an important role to enhance teachers in teaching astronomy in schools.

**[B3B-3-3]**

**14:30~14:45**

**Astronomy Education in India – Recent Trends in Human Resource Development**

Harinder P. Singh (University of Delhi, India) and Ajit K. Kembhavi

India has made good progress recently in making astronomy attractive for aspiring astronomers by investing in mega astronomical projects, revamping astronomy programs in universities by devising and introducing astronomy courses as well as setting up of small observatories. At the same time, public outreach activities are being supplemented by opening new planetaria, science parks and museums to attract young students to science in general. New employment schemes are being implemented to attract young talent towards science teaching. We discuss the aspects of human resource generation efforts in India with special reference to

future needs of astronomy.

[B3B-3-4]

14:45~15:00

**IAU AstroEDU: an Open-Access Platform for Peer-Reviewed Astronomy Education Activities**

Thilina Heenatigala (Universe Awareness, SriLanka)

There are many sources of educational resources for astronomy across the world. The quality of these resources is highly variable making the effectiveness to the end-user an unknown quantity. They are not maintained or updated regularly and have a limited content review. To address these issues and more, astroEDU follows a peer-reviewed process similar to what scholarly articles are based on. Activities submitted are peer-reviewed by an educator and a professional astronomer which gives the credibility to the activities. astroEDU activities are open-access in order to make the activities accessible to educators around the world while letting them discover, review, distribute and remix the activities. astroEDU is endorsed by the International Astronomical Union meaning each activity is given an official stamp by the international organisation for professional astronomers.

**Poster Session**

15:00~15:30

**Chair:** Thilina Heenatigala (Universe Awareness)  
Harinder P. Singh (University of Delhi)