

38. EXCHANGE OF ASTRONOMERS (ÉCHANGE DES ASTRONOMES)

(Committee of the Executive Committee)

PRESIDENT: M. G. J. Minnaert.

VICE-PRESIDENT: A. Reiz.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: D. Ja. Martynov, P. M. Routly, J. Sahade, J. P. Wild.

Commission 38 gratefully acknowledges the perfect and efficient cooperation with the General Secretary.

During the three-year period 1-1-1967 to 1-1-1970 the following travel subsidies have been granted:

177. Dr M. Khairy Aly	Helwan to Herstmonceux (R)
178. Dr K. C. Freeman	Austin to London
179. Mrs Dr Paris Pishmish	Mexico to Heidelberg
180. Dr F. Roddier	Nice to Tucson (R)
181. Dr M. Hockey	Oxford to Santa Cruz (R)
182. Dr P. Raghuvver	Hyderabad to Middletown (R)
183. Dr J. Monaghan	Cambridge to Santa Cruz (R)
184. Dr J. Hadjidemetriou and	
184a. Dr G. Bozis	Thessaloniki to Manchester (R)
185. Dr K. Ishida	Tokyo to Austin (R)
186. Dr A. Tlamicha	Ondřejov to Charlottesville (NRAO) (R)
187. Mrs Dr A. Ringuelet-Kaswalder	La Plata to Liège (R)
188. Dr I. Kawaguchi	Pic-du-Midi to Kyoto
189. Dr M. J. Rees	Cambridge to Pasadena (R)
190. Dr A. Uesugi	Kyoto to Amherst (R)
191. Dr J. Kleczek	Ondřejov to Utrecht (R)
192. Miss Dr S. Itoh	Kyoto to Meudon
193. Dr J. Kubota	Kyoto to Pic-du-Midi
194. Dr H. Haupt	Vienna to Haute-Provence (R)
195. Dr K. A. Hämeen-Anttila	Oulu to Meudon (R)
196. Dr F. Bertola	Padova to Pasadena
197. Dr Y. Sobouti	Shiraz to Philadelphia (R)
198. Dr B. Valníček	Ondřejov to Malta (R)
199. Dr M. Werner	New York to Cambridge (R)
200. Dr E. P. J. van den Heuvel	Utrecht to Santa Cruz (R)
201. Dr E. L. J. van Dessel	Utrecht to Nice (R)
202. Dr K. K. Sen	Singapore to Nice (R)
203. Dr R. C. Canfield	Denver to Utrecht (R)
204. Dr D. P. Gilra	Hyderabad to Madison
205. Dr P. Koubský	Ondřejov to Haute Provence (R)
206. Eng. C. Slottje	Utrecht to Nançay (R)
207. Dr N. A. Doughty	New Zealand to Hyderabad (R)
208. Miss Dr E. Dekker	Utrecht to Maryland (R)
209. Dr F. Pacini	Rome to Ithaca (R)
210. Miss Dr Beverley J. Harris	Canberra to Columbus (Ohio)
211. Dr P. Koubský	Ondřejov to Utrecht (R)
212. Dr J. E. Felten	Cambridge to Bombay (R)

213. Miss Dr H. Demoulin	Paris to Austin (R)
214. Dr J. Kubota	Pic-du-Midi to Kyoto
215. Mrs M. Querci	Paris to Berkeley (R)
216. Mrs E. Ribes	Paris to Sydney
217. Dr I. Fejes	Budapest to Groningen (R)

In agreement with a decision, taken at the Prague meeting of 1967, the names of the recipients have been mentioned, since the allocation of such a subsidy is considered to be a honour and a distinction. All cases in which roundtrip was paid have been marked by (R). Where this indication is not found, it means that the stay abroad extended over more than one year, or that the return fare was paid from other sources.

The number of subsidies in this period reached 44 (including the subcommission). Since the existence of the commission the numbers appear to increase steadily, though there are statistical fluctuations (see figure 1). In 11 cases the requests had to be refused. In 5 cases the promise of a

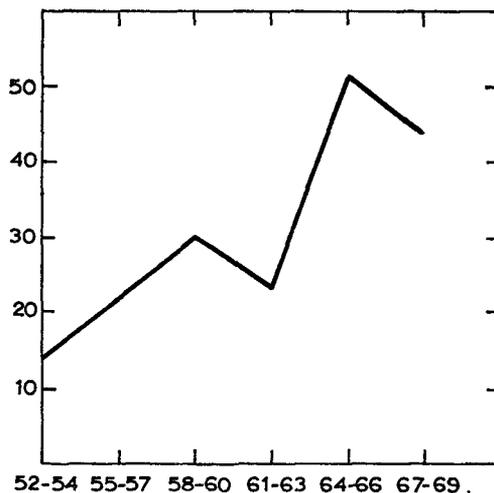


Fig. 1.

subsidy enabled the recipient to accept a fellowship abroad, but afterwards it proved possible to obtain money from other sources and the money was refunded to the IAU.

In the preceding report, we noticed already the increasing percentage of intercontinental travels, which then reached 67%. In this last period this trend persisted; the percentage now amounts to 76%. As a consequence the average amount of a subsidy now amounted to \$562.-.

Apparently there are nowadays many sources from which travel grants for short trips can be obtained, while the IAU remains one of the few bodies making long-distance journeys possible. The percentage of journeys to the U.S.A. reached 45%.

From the Executive Council a sum of \$22000.- was gratefully received for the whole of the three years period 1967-70. Our Commission also highly appreciates a generous contribution of \$4000.- by the ICSU; thanks to that additional subsidy it will probably be possible to satisfy all reasonable applications. During the three years 1966-69 the grants totalled \$24741.-, including those of the Sub-commission. For the next period a new IAU subsidy of \$22000.- will be necessary, assuming that the ICSU will be prepared to grant again a subsidy, comparable to that of the last period.

It should be stressed that the commission has been very economic with the means available. The fares paid correspond to economy class, the peak period was avoided as much as possible and

preference was given to the cheapest airlines. Notwithstanding the recommendation of the members at the Prague meeting, we have been obliged to keep strictly to our rules and to refuse any subsidy in view of symposia or costs of living. It has not been possible to accumulate a modest reserve fund.

The reports, received from the host observatories and from those who received a grant, show clearly that the visits to foreign observatories have been without exception useful and profitable. Our travel grants have been particularly beneficial during 1969, when unexpected economic difficulties in some countries made the obtention of official subsidies for scientific travels almost impossible.

It may be useful to remind the members of the IAU that the grants of Commission 38 are available not only for young people, but for astronomers of any age (having reached at least the master's degree). We expect, however, that first of all subsidies from national funds will be applied for.

The Commission tries to work with maximum speed and a minimum of formalities. Nevertheless it appears all the time that applicants are not aware of the information which they are expected to give:

- (1) a short indication about their scientific degree and specialization;
- (2) the plan for the journey, date of departure, duration of stay abroad, planned investigations;
- (3) a letter of the director of the home observatory, expressing his agreement with the travel;
- (4) a letter of the director of the host observatory, expressing his agreement with the visit.
- (5) When should the money be received and to what address (personal, institute, bank account)?

At the Prague meeting the members of the commission expressed the wish that competent astronomers be sent for some time to countries, not fully participating in the modern development of astronomy, in order to teach there and to direct research. A first attempt in this direction has been made. A circular was sent to 11 countries, of which 3 showed interest in the project and expressed the wish to participate. The Executive Committee transmitted this project to Commission 46, but our commission may have to take care of the travelling expenses.

Information about the activities of Commission 38 was transmitted at their request to: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics (Ottawa), the Secretary of ICSU (Rome), the Grants Register (London), the Consejo Nacional (Buenos Aires).

M. MINNAERT

President of the Commission

REPORT OF SUB-COMMISSION 38

The sub-commission takes care of applications for travel grants from graduate students, having not yet reached the master's degree.

Five requests have been submitted to sub-commission 38 and two grants conceded, for a total of \$1107.90.

An amount of \$707.90 gave the possibility to Mr. B. De (India) to pay his trip Calcutta-Detroit (U.S.A.) in order to enter, in 1968, the graduate school of the University of Michigan. According to Dr. O. Mohler, Chairman of the Astronomy Department, Mr. De has done very well indeed, his marks being without exception in the highest possible category.

Mr. J. D. Finkel (Canada) has received \$400.-, in 1969, for his roundtrip Montreal-Stockholm in order to work with Professor H. Alfvén.

M. MIGEOTTE

President of the Sub-Commission