

Brief Biographical Notes of the Candidates for the 2018 – 2020 Governing Council and Auditors of the Hellenic Astronomical Society

I. PRESIDENT

Απόστολος Μαστιχιάδης – Apostolos Mastichiadis (Incumbent)



Professor, Department of Astrophysics, Astronomy and Mechanics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

He received his B.Sc. in Physics from University of Athens in 1979, his M.Sc. in Astronomy from University of Sussex in 1980 and his Ph.D. in Physics and Astronomy from Boston University in 1985. He has worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow/Research Associate in Max-Planck-Institut for Extraterrestrial Physics (1985-86 and 1987-88), University of Adelaide (1988-90), NASA-Goddard Space Flight Center (NAS-NRC Fellow, 1992-93) and Max-Planck-Institut for Nuclear Physics (1990-92 and 1993-97).

His research interests are in High Energy Astrophysics, with emphasis on Active Galactic Nuclei and Gamma Ray Bursts, and Cosmic Ray Physics. He has published, according to ADS, more than 100 papers in refereed journals and he has contributed about 80 papers to various conference proceedings and special volumes.

He is also the author, along with Prof. N. Vlahakis, of a textbook on High Energy Astrophysics. He is a member of the Hellenic and the European Astronomical Society.

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II. BOARD MEMBERS (in alphabetical order)

Αντώνιος Γεωργακάκης – Antonios Georgakakis (Incoming)



Antonios Georgakakis is Senior Researcher at the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) of the National Observatory of Athens. He obtained his BSc in Physics from the University of Athens in 1995, his MSc in Physics from the University of Crete in 1995 and his PhD in Astrophysics from the Imperial College London (UK) in 1998. He worked as postdoctoral researcher at the University of Birmingham (UK) (1998-2000), the Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics of the National Observatory of Athens (2002-2005) and the Astrophysics group of the Imperial College London (UK; 2005-2008). He was awarded a "Marie Curie" fellowship for the period 2006-2008. He joined the IAASARS as Associate Researcher in 2008. Between 2011 and 2016 he served as staff scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics in Garching (Germany). He is interested in the formation and evolution of supermassive black holes at the centres of galaxies. His research has produced 115 refereed publications.

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Κωνσταντίνος Γοντικιάκης – Costis Gontikakis (Incoming)



C. Gontikakis was born in Athens in 1968. He studied physics at the University of Crete. His PhD was obtained in 1996 at the Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale (IAS), in Paris France. The PhD's subject was the numerical simulation of the UV hydrogen spectrum emitted by solar prominences.

Now he is working as a Researcher B at the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics of the Academy of Athens.

His research is specialized in the study of the solar EUV spectrum emitted from the transition region and corona. He is also interested in the study of particle's acceleration during solar flares and in the study of coronal heating. He has published 31 articles in peer review journals, and he has received 264 citations (self-citations excluded). He participated in the HNSWR national research project for the study of the solar Earth relation. He also

participated in the FLARECAST European project where he studied new methods for solar flare forecasting.

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Παναγιώτης Πάτσης – Panagiotis Patsis (Incumbent)



Research Director, Acting Director at the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics of the Academy of Athens. He was born in Athens, Greece on the 7th of August 1961. He received his B.Sc. in Mathematics from the University of Athens (1985) and his Ph.D. from the same University (1991), doing his doctoral research at the European Southern Observatory (ESO). He has worked as ESO fellow in Garching, Germany, as CNRS fellow at the Observatory of Marseille, France, as postdoctoral fellow and researcher at the Max-Planck Institute for Astronomy, Heidelberg, Germany and as researcher at the institute ARI of the University of Heidelberg. Since 2001 he works as researcher at the Research Center for Astronomy of the Academy of Athens. His research interests are in Galactic Dynamics, Morphology of Disk Galaxies, Observations in the Near-Infrared, Nonlinear Phenomena and Chaos Theory. He has published 58 scientific papers in refereed journals and more than 65 papers in special volumes and books. He has been co-editor of four volumes of conference proceedings. He is member of the Greek Mathematical Society, of the Greek Physicist Association, of the Hellenic Astronomical Society (Hel.A.S.) and of the International Astronomical Union (IAU).

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Σπυρίδων Πατσουράκος – Spiros Patsourakos (Incoming)



Spiros Patsourakos is an Associate Professor at the Physics Department of the University of Ioannina since 2015. He obtained a physics degree from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 1996, and a MSc and PhD in plasma physics from the University Paris XI in France in 1997 and 2000, respectively. For the periods 2000-2001 and 2001-2009 he worked as post doctoral research assistant at MSSL, University College of London, UK and post doctoral associate at George Mason University/Naval Research Lab, USA, respectively. In 2009 he joined the Physics Department of the University of Ioannina as assistant professor and obtained tenure in 2012. His research interests are in solar physics and space weather

and has been involved in the data analysis and modeling of multi-wavelength spectroscopic and imaging data from a series of space-borne instruments of the OSO8, SOHO, TRACE, Hinode, STEREO, SDO and IRIS missions. He served as scientific planner of the operations of the SUMER and CDS instruments of the SOHO mission during several intervals during 1997-2001. He is a Co-investigator of the SECCHI instrument suite of the STEREO mission and of the SolO HI instrument of the Solar Orbiter mission and scientific collaborator of the ASPIICS instrument of the PROBA III mission. He has 55 peer-reviewed papers and 5 review articles with more than 1800 citations. He gave 12 invited talks in national and international meetings. He was the coordinator of several observing programmes of the SOHO and Hinode missions. He is the leader of an ISEST working group and the co-leader of an ISSI team. He served as convener/co-convener/member of the scientific organizing committees of 5 sessions in international conferences and participated in the organization of 5 international conferences. He served as reviewer in several NASA/NSF panels. He supervised two post-doctoral associates. Ordinary member of HELASET. Elected member of the Coronal Loops Workshops Steering Committee (2012-2014), member of the Education and Public Outreach Committee of the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society (2007-2009). Elected auditor of the HELASET (2012-2014, 2014-2016), member of the selection committee of the Sunanda and Santimay Basu Early Career Award in Sun-Earth Systems Science of AGU (2014-2016), chair of Division IV Solar Wind and Interplanetary Field of IAGA (2015-2019). Head of the Astro-geophysics section of the Department of Physics of the University of Ioannina (2018-2019). He has taught several undergraduate physics and mathematics courses in the University of Ioannina. He is a co-author of two textbooks on solar and space physics and observational astrophysics for undergraduate students.

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Βασιλική Παυλίδου – Vasiliki Pavlidou (Incumbent)



Vasiliki Pavlidou obtained her BSc in Physics at the University of Thessaloniki in 1999 and her PhD in Theoretical Astrophysics at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (USA) in 2005. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Cosmological Physics of the University of Chicago (2005-2008) and an Einstein fellow at Caltech (2008-2011). During the 2011-2012 year she was a visiting scientist at the Max-Planck Institute for Radioastronomy. She was elected Assistant Professor at the Department of Physics in 2010 and she joined the department in the fall of 2012, where she has been serving since. She has served as a member of the Governing Council of Hel.A.S between 2016 and 2018.

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Νεκτάριος Βλαχάκης – Nektarios Vlahakis (Incoming)



Associate Professor, Department of Physics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (since 2016). He was born in Agios Nikolaos, Crete on the 4th of February, 1971. He got his B.Sc. in Physics from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece (1992), his M.Sc. in Physics from the University of Crete, Greece (1992) and his Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the same University (1994). He has been a McCormick fellow at the Enrico Fermi Institute, Univ. of Chicago, U.S.A. (2000-2002) and a Research Associate at the Astronomy and Astrophysics Dept., Univ. of Chicago, U.S.A. (2002-2003). Since 2003 he is a faculty member at the

Department of Physics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Lecturer (2003-2008) and Assistant Professor (2008-2016). His scientific interests include plasma astrophysics, relativistic and non-relativistic magnetohydrodynamics, cosmic jets, AGNs, GRBs, Pulsar winds, accretions disks, plasma equilibrium and stability and nonlinear differential equations. He has published 47 scientific papers in refereed journals and 36 in conference proceedings and special volumes. He is a member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and of the Hellenic Astronomical Society (Hel.A.S.). He is married to Christina Panteli and they have one daughter.

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III. AUDITORS (in alphabetical order)

Γεώργιος Μπαλάσης – Georgios Balasis



Dr. Georgios Balasis is a Senior Researcher of the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) at the National Observatory of Athens (NOA). He is member of the Validation Team and Quality Working Group of ESA's Swarm Mission and PI of ESA's Swarm Mission Science Exploration. Dr. Balasis is Delegate of Greece to the Board of ESA's Space Situational Awareness (SSA) Programme. He serves as Editor for Magnetosphere and Space Plasma Physics of *Annales Geophysicae* and Review Editor of *Frontiers in Physics* and *Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences*. He also serves as Secretary for Earth Magnetism and Rock Physics Division of European Geosciences Union. He is PI of the ENIGMA ground magnetometer array operated by IAASARS/NOA. Dr. Balasis is an expert in solar-terrestrial coupling processes and in particular magnetospheric dynamics. He has published 52 refereed papers, which have received 1250+ citations (h-index=21). He has recently edited the book "Waves, particles, and storms in geospace", together with I. A. Daglis and I. R. Mann, which was published by Oxford University Press in 2016.

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Dr. Spyros Basilakos is a cosmologist with a career spanning scientific research, academic teaching and science communication. He has held a number of academic positions at various universities around Europe. Currently, he is a director of research at the Academy of Athens (Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics - RCAAM). He is a member of the Hellenic Astronomical society and an elected Councilor of the Governing Board of the Hellenic Society for Relativity, Gravity and Cosmology.

He completed his PhD studies in Cosmology at the University of Athens. During the period 1999-2002, he worked as a PPARC fellow at the Imperial College (UK). From 2002 to 2005, he worked within NOA's (National observatory of Athens) program searching for the clustering properties of the large scale structures. In 2005 he joined the astrophysics group at the University of Groningen (The Netherlands) as a NOVA fellow. For the period 2006-2014 he was a faculty member (Senior Researcher) at the Academy of Athens (RCAAM) and a Visiting Professor in the field of Physical Cosmology at the University of Barcelona (2011-2012). Today, he is Director of Research at RCAAM. In 2013, 2014 and 2017 he participated in the international Gravity competition organized by the Gravity Research Foundation (GRF -USA) and his scientific works received honorable mentions by GRF. He published 183 scientific articles out of which 131 in refereed journals and 52 in conference proceedings. Moreover, he supervised large number of PhD, MSc and BSc theses and he participated in several international collaborations and scientific programs. Currently, he gives lectures in Cosmology and General Relativity at the University of Athens and contributes to public engagement events in science.

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Associate Professor at the Department of Physics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She received her BSc in Physics from the University of Athens in 1984 and her PhD in Astronomy from the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, in 1989.

She has served as a Research Astronomer at the Anglo-Australian Observatory in Australia (1989 – 1991), a Researcher at the Institute of Astronomy of the University of Cambridge (1992 – 1993), a Lecturer at the Physics Department of the University of Crete (1993 – 1997), an Assistant (1997 – 2007) and thereafter an Associate (2007 – 2009) Professor at the same institution, before assuming her current position at the University of Athens in 2009. Over her service she has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in Observational Astrophysics, Applied Optics, Galactic and Extragalactic Astronomy, Stellar Evolution and Theoretical Mathematics.

Her research interests span within Observational Astronomy and Astrophysics. She has worked and published on topics of star formation and stellar populations, stellar clusters, asymptotic giant branch stars, RR Lyrae variables, extragalactic novae, white dwarfs, neutron star and black hole binaries, stellar variability and spectroscopy – astronomical instrumentation. She has published 92 refereed papers and 131 papers in conference proceedings and special volumes, enjoying 4000+ citations, with an h-index of 32. Moreover, she has participated in several national and international Committees of Astronomy and Astrophysics, among which two previous Governing Boards of the Hellenic Astronomical Society.

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