



Brief Biographical Notes of the Candidates for the 2020 – 2022 Governing Council and Auditors of the Hellenic Astronomical Society

I. PRESIDENT

Βασίλης Χαρμανδάρης – Vassilis Charmandaris (incoming)	
	<p>Completed his undergraduate studies in Physics at the University of Thessaloniki in 1989 and continued his graduate studies in the US obtaining a PhD in Astrophysics from Iowa State University in 1995. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at CEA/Saclay (France) in 1996, followed by a Marie Curie fellowship at Paris Observatory (1997-1999), and a research associate position at the Astronomy Department of Cornell University (1999-2005). In 2005 he joined the faculty of the Dept. of Physics at the Univ. of Crete, where he is currently a Professor of Observational Astrophysics. He was the Director of IAASARS at the National Observatory of Athens (2013-2018). Since March 2019 he is the Director of the Institute of Astrophysics at FORTH. During the period of 2006-2010 he served as the Secretary of Hel.A.S. Currently, he is also serving in various international committees including the Astronomy Working Group of ESA, the Scientific Council of INSU/CNRS and the Haute Comité Scientifique of Paris Observatory (France), as well as the Executive Committee of the journal Astronomy & Astrophysics.</p>
	Work Address: Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Crete, GR-71003, Heraklion, Greece
	Phone No.: +30-2810-394216
	Email: vassilis@physics.uoc.gr
	Webpage: http://www.physics.uoc.gr/~vassilis

II. BOARD MEMBERS

Νεκτάριος Βλαχάκης – Nektarios Vlahakis (incumbent)	
	<p>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, University 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.</p>
Work Address:	Section of Astrophysics, Astronomy and Mechanics, Department of Physics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Panepistimiopolis, GR-15784 Zografos, Athens, Greece.
Phone No.:	+30210-727-6903
Email:	vlahakis@phys.uoa.gr
Webpage:	http://www.phys.uoa.gr/~vlahakis

Αντώνης Γεωργακάκης – Antonis Georgakakis (incumbent)

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 has 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.

Work Address:	National Observatory of Athens, V. Paulou & I. Metaxa, GR-15236, Penteli
Phone No.:	+30210-810-9169
Email:	age@noa.gr
Webpage:	members.noa.gr/age

Κωνσταντίνος Γοντικάκης – Konstantinos Gontikakis (incumbent)



Born in Athens, in 1968. Studied physics at the University of Crete. Obtained his PhD in 1996 at the Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale (IAS), in Paris France. The subject of his PhD was the numerical simulation of the UV hydrogen spectrum emitted by solar prominences. Now he is working as a Senior Researcher at the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics (RCAAM) of the Academy of Athens. His research specializes in the study of the solar EUV spectrum emitted from the transition region and corona. He is also interested in the study of particle acceleration during solar flares and in the study of coronal heating.

He has published 34 articles in peer review journals and has received more than 310 citations (self-citations excluded). He has participated in the HNNSWR national research project for the study of the solar Earth relation. He has also participated in the FLARECAST European project where he studied new methods for solar flare forecasting.

Work Address:	Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics, Academy of Athens, Soranou Efessiou 4, Athens 11527, Greece
Phone No.:	+30210-659-7246
Email:	cgontik@academyofathens.gr

Κωνσταντίνος Νεκτάριος Γουργουλιάτος – Konstantinos Nektarios Gourgouliatos
(Incoming)



Assistant Professor at the Department of Physics of the University of Patras. He received his B.Sc. in Physics from the University of Patras in 2004, he completed Part III of the Mathematical Tripos at the Department of Applied Mathematics of the University of Cambridge in 2005 and he received his PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2009. He has worked as a Post-Doctoral Researcher at Purdue University (2009-2012), McGill University (2012-2014), University of Leeds (2015-2017) and he was an Assistant Professor at Durham University (2017-2019). He joined the University of Patras in October 2019 as an Assistant Professor. His research interests are Theoretical and Computational Astrophysics. He focuses on Relativistic Magnetohydrodynamics with main applications on neutron stars and astrophysical jets. He has published 33 refereed papers and his work has received more than 500 citations.

Work Address:	University of Patras, Department of Physics, Rio – Patras, 26504, Greece
Phone No.:	+302610-99-6080
Email:	kngourg@upatras.gr
Webpage:	http://www.astro.upatras.gr/kng/

Σπύρος Πατσουράκος – Spiros Patsourakos (incumbent)



Spiros Patsourakos is an Associate Professor with 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. During 2000-2001 and 2001-2009 he worked as post-doctoral associate at MSSL, University College of London, UK and at George Mason University/Naval Research Lab, USA, respectively. He joined the Physics Department of the University of Ioannina in 2009. His

research interests are in solar physics and space weather and has 62 refereed papers. He is a Co-investigator of the SECCHI instrument of the STEREO mission and of the SolO HI instrument of the Solar Orbiter mission. He is a member of the Solar Physics Advisory Board (2019-2022), co-leader of a PRESTO programme pillar (2019-2024), member of the Coronal Loops Workshops Steering Committee (2012-2014), member of the Education and Public Outreach Committee of the Solar Physics Division of AAS (2007-2009), auditor (2012-2014, 2014-2016) and governing board member (2018-2020) of the HELASET, chair of Division IV of IAGA (2015-2019). He co-authored two textbooks on solar and space physics and observational astrophysics for undergraduate students.

Work Address:	Section of Astrogeophysics, Department of Physics, University of Ioannina, Ioannina, 45110, Greece
Phone No.:	+30-2651008478
Email:	spatsour@uoi.gr

Κωνσταντίνος Τάσσης – Konstantinos Tassis (incoming)



Konstantinos Tassis is an associate professor of theoretical astrophysics at the department of Physics of the University of Crete since 2018. He obtained his B.Sc. in Physics, with honours from the University of Thessaloniki in 1999, his M. Sc. (2001) and PhD (2005) in Astronomy, at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. During 2005-2008 and 2008-2011, he worked as a post-doctoral scholar at the University of Chicago and NASA-JPL/Caltech respectively. He was a visiting Scientist at the Max Plank Institute for Radio Astronomy (Bonn, Germany) for a year (2011-2012). Since November 2012 he is at the University of Crete, first

as a Marie Curie Fellow (2012-2013) then as an Assistant professor (2014-2018). His research interests include the physics of the Interstellar medium; Magnetic Star Formation; Interstellar Chemistry; Polarimetry; Cosmology; (Structure Formation, Galaxy Formation and Evolution; Dynamics of the Intra-cluster Medium). He is currently leading the international experiment PASIPHAЕ. He has 62 publications in peer review papers and more than 2000 citations (h-index: 28). Selected funding: ERC Consolidator Grant (2018-2023), Marie Curie fellowship, (2017-2019), Stavros Niarchos foundation (2016-2020). Selected awards: 2019 FORTH Researcher Award; 2008 NASA Postdoctoral Program Fellowship (declined); 2004-2005 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, U. Illinois; 2001 Award for Excellence in Teaching, U. Illinois; 1999-2000, Graduate College Fellowship, U. Illinois; 1999-2002 Graduate Studies in Astronomy Fellowship, Greek State, Scholarships Foundation; 1994-1999.

Work Address:	Department of Physics, University of Crete, P.O Box 2208GR-71003 Heraklion, Greece
Phone No.:	+30-2651008478
Email:	tassis@physics.uoc.gr
Webpage:	https://www.physics.uoc.gr/en/faculty/k.tassis

III. AUDITORS

Όμιρος Γιαννακής – **Omiros Giannakis**



Omiros Giannakis is a Senior Research Scientist at the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) of the National Observatory of Athens. He obtained his B. Sc. In 1998, a M.Sc. in 2001 and his Ph.D. in 2008, from the University of Athens. He is working at IAAARS of the NOA first as a Research Assistant (2000-2005), then as a Research Support Specialist (2006-2017) and now as a Senior Research Scientist (2017-present). His areas of expertise include the processing and analysis of space-borne datasets

from space missions, the effects on space electronics and science instruments, the shielding simulations and optimization; Software interfacing Geant4 with space environment and/or effects tools (e.g. SPENVIS); Single Event Effects (SEE) simulation; AI/ML techniques. He has 9 refereed publications with more than 240 citations. He is PI and PC Deputy of several projects founded by ESA and the European Commission (H2020), such as *"Linking data and publications in ESA's Science Archives Publications System (LPUB-SAPS)" (2017-2021)*, *"arTificial intelligenCe To llnk publiCations wlth observAtioNs (TACTICIAN)" (2017-2019)*, *"Geant4-based Particle Simulation Facility in Greece for Future Science Mission Support (G4G)" (2018-2022)* and *"Radiation Belt Environmental Indicators for the Safety of Space Assets (SafeSpace)" (2020-2023)*. He is a Certified Evaluator of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of Greece (GSRT); Certified Evaluator of the Research Promotion Foundation of Cyprus (RPF). He has teaching experience as Lecturer at the "Space Science Technologies and Applications" Master of Science of the department of Informatics and Telecommunications of the University of the Peloponnese (2017-2019).

Work Address:	Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing, National Observatory of Athens, I. Metaxa & Vas. Pavlou str., GR-15236, Penteli, Greece
Phone No.:	+30- 2108109130
Email:	ogiannakis@noa.gr
Webpage:	http://members.noa.gr/ogiannakis/

Γεώργιος Μπαλάσης – **George Balassis**



I am a Research Director of the Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) at the National Observatory of Athens (NOA). I received a BSc in Physics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) in 1995, followed by an MSc by Research with Distinction in Geophysics from the University of Edinburgh (UK) in 1997, an MSc in Condensed Matter Physics in 1998 and a PhD in Applied Electromagnetism in 2001 both from the

NKUA. From 2002 to 2006 I was the specialist for global electromagnetic induction in the CHAMP satellite team at GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam (Germany). I returned to Greece in 2006 as an Assistant Researcher of the former Institute for Space Applications and Remote Sensing (ISARS) at NOA, where I have been responsible for the establishment, installation and operation of the Hellenic GeoMagnetic Array (ENIGMA) and for its access to the SuperMAG worldwide collaboration of ground-based magnetometers. ENIGMA is the first magnetometer station array that has ever operated in Greece. My research interests lie mainly in space physics (Sun-Earth connection, dynamics of the magnetosphere, space weather, geomagnetic field), and complex systems. I am also involved in magnetic satellite missions, and in particular I am a member of the Validation Team of the Swarm satellite mission of the European Space Agency (ESA) and Principal Investigator of the Swarm Mission Science Exploration. I have published 1 book, 6 book chapters and 56 refereed papers, which have received 1600+ citations (h-index=22). I serve as an Editor for Magnetosphere and Space Plasma Physics of Annales Geophysicae, a journal of the European Geosciences Union (EGU).

Work Address:	Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing, National Observatory of Athens, I. Metaxa & Vas. Pavlou str., GR-15236, Penteli, Greece
Phone No.:	+30 2108109185
Email:	gbalasis@noa.gr
Webpage:	http://members.noa.gr/gbalasis/

Μιρέλλα Χαρσούλα – Mirella Harsoula



Senior Researcher at the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics (RCAAM) of the Academy of Athens. She was born in Athens. She received her Diploma in Physics from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1989, her M.Sc in Astrophysics from University Paul Sabatier in Toulouse (France) in 1990 and her Ph.D. in Astronomy from the Department of Astronomy, Astrophysics and Mechanics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1999. Her research interests

are Dynamical Astronomy, Galactic Dynamics and Nonlinear Phenomena. She has published more than 50 papers in referred journals and conference proceedings. She has participated in more than 20 conferences with oral presentation of her work. She has participated in many funded and non-funded projects of the Academy of Athens as well as in International projects. She is a member of two doctoral dissertation committees. She is an ordinary member of Hel.A.S (Hellenic Astronomical Society) and member of the IAU (International Astronomical Union) . She often gives talks in schools, universities and institutes for supporting the public outreach of astronomy. She is married and have two daughters

Work Address:	Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics, Academy of Athens, Soranou Efessiou 4, Athens 11527, Greece
Phone No.:	+30-210-6597158
Email:	mharsoul@academyofathens.gr