

**About the
American
Astronomical
Society**



An overview for AAS Agents

The AAS



- Founded in 1899
- Non-profit corporation
- Executive Office on K Street NW in Washington, DC
- Governed by a 19-member Board of Trustees*, with Trustees elected from the membership via a nominating committee
- Six topical Divisions
- Corporate member of the American Institute of Physics (AIP)

*Transition Period



By 2020, the Board of Trustees shall gradually decrease in size from 19 members to 11 members.

In 2018, 3 *Councilors*, whose terms are scheduled to expire in 2018—along with the Executive Officer, the Education Officer, and the Chair of the Publications Board in their capacity as members of the governing board of the Society—shall be replaced by 2 At-Large Trustees for a term of three years (reducing the size of the Board of Trustees to 15);

*Transition Period



In 2019, 3 *Councilors*, whose terms are scheduled to expire in 2019, shall be replaced by 1 At-Large Trustee for a term of three years, and an election shall be held for Secretary (reducing the size of the Board of Trustees to 13); and

In 2020, 3 At-Large Trustees, whose terms will expire in 2020, shall be replaced by 1 At-Large Trustee for a term of three years, and an election shall be held for Treasurer (reducing the size of the Board of Trustees to 11).

Mission



The mission of the AAS is to enhance and share humanity's scientific understanding of the universe.



AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Enhancing and sharing humanity's scientific understanding of the universe since 1899.

Officers & Council



President	Christine Jones
President-Elect or Past President	Megan Donahue (President Elect)
Vice Presidents	Senior VP: Chick Woodward Second VP: James D. Lowenthal Third VP: Michael Strauss
Treasurer	Nancy D. Morrison
Secretary	G. Fritz Benedict
Education Officer	Charles Liu
Trustees	Daniela Calzetti Nancy Chanover Sally Oey Adam Burgasser Jessica Kirkpatrick Stuart Vogel Marcel Agüeros Kelle Cruz Kelsey Johnson
Executive Officer	Kevin Marvel

Strategic Assembly



The Strategic Assembly (SA) is composed of the

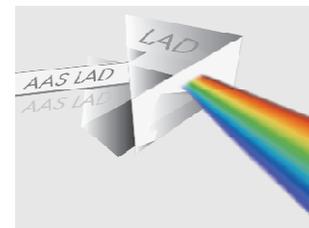
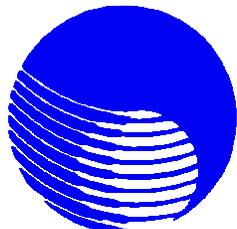
- Members of the Board of Trustees
- Chairs of the Society's six Divisions
- Chairs of the Society's Committees

The SA ensures board, representative, and diverse input into the long-range planning of the Society.

Divisions



- Division on Dynamical Astronomy (DDA)
- Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS)
- High Energy Astrophysics Division (HEAD)
- Historical Astronomy Division (HAD)
- Laboratory Astrophysics Division (LAD)
- Solar Physics Division (SPD)



AAS Directors



Executive Officer

Kevin Marvel, kevin.marvel@aas.org

Deputy Executive Officer/Director, Public Policy

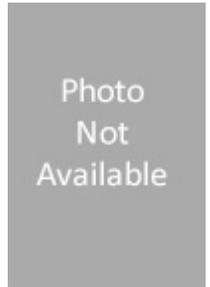
Joel Parriott, joel.parriott@aas.org

Chief Financial & Operating Officer

Kelly Clark, kelly.clark@aas.org

Director of Meeting Services

Vacant



Director of Membership Services

Diane Frendak, diane.frendak@aas.org

Director of Information Technology

Scott Idem, scott.idem@aas.org

Director of Publishing

Julie Steffen, julie.steffen@aas.org

Press Officer

Rick Fienberg, rick.fienberg@aas.org

Journals



The AAS publishes *The Astronomical Journal*, *The Astrophysical Journal*, *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, and *The Astrophysical Journal Supplement*.

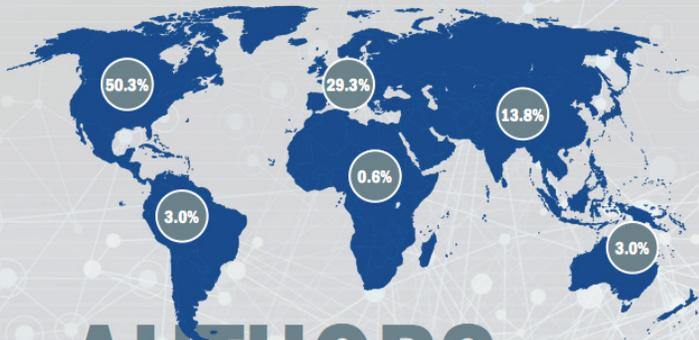
As of 2015, the AAS Journals are only published electronically.

All AAS Journals are delayed open access, with a 12-month proprietary period.

AAS Nova (aasnova.org) is a website providing highlights of recent articles from AAS Journals that might otherwise be overlooked.

journals.aas.org





AUTHORS

AAS authors by region in 2013



8 AUTHORS PER PAPER

Avg. number of AAS authors in 2013



10 DOWNLOADS EVERY MINUTE

AAS article downloads in 2013



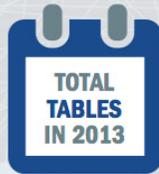
TOTAL ARTICLES IN 2013

4,135



TOTAL FIGURES IN 2013

54,248



TOTAL TABLES IN 2013

10,447

Total AAS articles, figures and tables in 2013

Total print circulation over the last decade



The Astronomical Journal



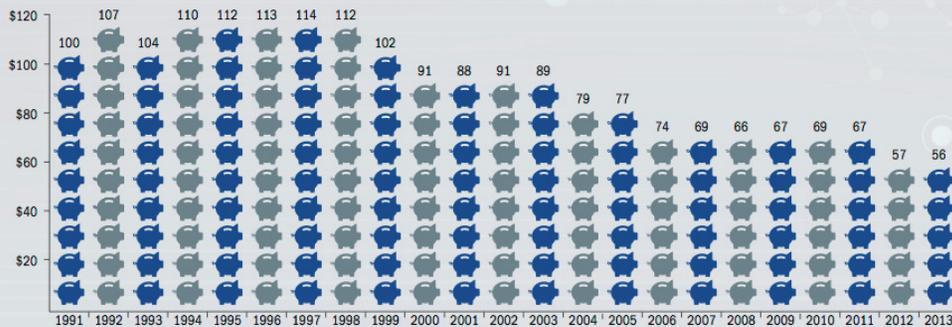
The Astrophysical Journal

PDF downloads



AAS Journals

Avg. authors fee per page in 2013



Inflation adjusted figures

TOP 10 A&A JOURNALS

Top 10 Journals (by citations)

- 1 Astrophysical Journal 191,940
- 5 Astrophysical Journal Letters 45,993
- 6 Astronomical Journal 34,668
- 7 Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series 24,764

Total = 674,187 / AAS share = 297,365 (44%)

Meetings



The AAS holds a winter and summer meeting each year that include:

- Plenary talks from major prize winners and invited speakers
- Town Halls with federal agencies and national observatories
- Special Sessions proposed by members
- Workshops held before or after the meeting
- Professional Development sessions organized by AAS and committees
- Additional events, such as meetings-in-a-meeting and receptions

aas.org/meetings/meeting-services

Public Policy



Public Policy activities are overseen by the AAS Council and the Committee on Astronomy and Public Policy (CAPP) and include:

- Coordinating visits with policy makers
- Representing AAS in public policy settings
- Regular activities intended to influence decision-making related to astronomy



AAS members, Congressional Visits Day, March 2014

The fundamental guiding principle is do no harm and take grassroots action only when tangible results are likely.

aas.org/policy

Education



- Harlow Shapley Visiting Lectureship Program
 - Two-day visits to colleges by professional astronomers
- Chambliss Astronomy Student Poster Awards
 - For exemplary research by undergraduate & graduate students who present a poster at an AAS meeting
- Workshop for New Faculty in Physics and Astronomy
 - Held each year with the American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Physical Society
- Astronomy Ambassadors Program
 - Workshops for early-career astronomers to improve their ability to communicate with students and the public

Gina Brissenden, Education & Outreach Coordinator
gina.brissenden@aaas.org

aas.org/education

Media Relations



- Overseen by the AAS Board of Trustees, implemented by the Press Officer
- The AAS runs a vetted press-release distribution service for the astronomical sciences, with about 1,200 releases per year to approximately 2,000 journalists and public information officers.
- The AAS holds press conferences at each meeting.
- The AAS issues its own press releases related to Society activities, but not related to science done by our members (those are issued by members' home institutions).

Rick Fienberg, Press Officer

rick.fienberg@aac.org

aac.org/about/media-press

Grants & Prizes



- **The AAS operates a travel grant program for conferences held beyond the United States**
 - Supported by the NSF
 - Two rounds of selections per year
 - Extra support for travel to the IAU General Assembly
- **The AAS awards numerous prizes to recognize a variety of activities by individuals who further our discipline**
 - Nominations are due 30 June each year
 - Selected by committees, approved by the Board of Trustees

aas.org/grants-and-prizes/aas-prizes-and-awards

Employment / Professional Development



Committees offering advice for launching and shaping a rewarding career:

- Committee on Employment
- Committee on the Status of Women in Astronomy (CSWA)
- Committee on the Status of Minorities in Astronomy (CSMA)

The AAS also offers:

- Resources for careers in both academic and nonacademic settings
- Links to hubs and blogs for peer-to-peer networking
- Valuable career-oriented speakers and sessions
- AAS Job Register – the go-to source for jobs in the astronomical sciences
- Career Services at each winter meeting

aas.org/careers

Why Students Should Join the AAS



- Guaranteed paper slot at each AAS meeting
- Substantial discounts on AAS and Division meeting registration
- Access to professional development and career resources
- And much more!

aas.org/individual-membership/benefits-membership

Voting & Why to Vote



- The AAS election is held each December and voting concludes in January
 - Nominations for each position are generated by the Nominating Committee
 - Newly elected leaders take office in June

■ Why Vote?

Your dues, your **publication charges**, your meeting **speakers** and formats, your **representation** in Washington, your **employment** and **education** resources – **YOUR SOCIETY** – depends on *your* elected representatives.

Being an Agent



Being an AAS Agent is about:

- Educating your colleagues about the AAS
- Informing them of benefits and deadlines
- Recruiting new members
- Providing feedback to leadership
- Suggesting initiatives to serve members
- Rallying colleagues for rare Action Alerts
- Making the Society better and more relevant

Learn more at
aas.org/agents