

FPS Astronomy and Space Physics Division meeting 2025

26 March 2025, 16.45--18.00

Tellus Backstage, University of Oulu, Oulu + Zoom

Chair: Nina Dresing (on site)

Secretary: Jenni Häkkinen (online)

Others present in the meeting:

On site: Eleanna Asvestari, Ilya Usoskin, Nicholas Larsen, Sergey Koldobskiy, David Pelosi, Lauri Holappa, Anita Aikio, Christian Palmroos, Seve Nyberg, Johannes Hissa, Mikhail Vokhmianin, Daniel Price, Folipp Temecov, Alexander Misher, Ismo Tähtinen, Kseniia Golubenko, Jaclyn Lang, Jan Gieseler, Ume Farwa, Habtamu Tesfaw, Pauli Väisänen

Online: Catherine Ngom, Kalevi Mursula, Nasrin Talebpour

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the chair at 16.45.

2. Announcements

Nina Dresing opened the meeting by introducing themselves as the new division chair and Jenni Häkkinen as the new division secretary.

Nina advertised the new email list for the division members, which is used to distribute information on division activities, such as future meetings. The next division meeting is planned to be held at Physics Days 2026 in Aalto University, Espoo.

It was decided that no separate scrutiniser of the minutes is needed, the chair will check the minutes and after that they will be distributed via the division email list.

3. Presentation by Ilya Usoskin

Professor Ilya Usoskin from the University of Oulu gave a presentation on the topic of “Extreme events on the Sun and sun-like stars: Are they related?”

Ilya gave an introduction to extreme solar events and super-flares of sun-like stars, followed by an overview of what is known so far about these phenomena and what implications and consequences they would have on human civilisation.

The talk lasted about 25 minutes followed by five minutes of questions and discussion.

4. Presentation by Eleanna Asvestari

Academy Research Fellow Eleanna Asvestari from the University of Helsinki gave a presentation on the topic of “The challenges of science communication in astronomy and astrophysics.”

Eleanna’s talk consisted of five parts, in which they talked about to whom we communicate our research, why we communicate our research, the challenges we face when communicating research, the challenges science communication is facing, and some unique challenges impacting astrophysics or physics in general.

The talk lasted about 25 minutes followed by five minutes of questions and discussion.

5. Any other business

An issue related to difficulties in getting a specific paper in space physics published was brought up, but this is outside the scope of this division.

Unifying the physics/astronomy curricula between different universities would be helpful. Especially on advanced courses, there are usually few students, and they could benefit from other universities. Currently, getting the credits accepted from other universities is difficult.

There is some funding (about 500 €) for organising a small event for the Astronomy and Space Physics Division during the year, and the chair asked the attendees to be in contact if they have suggestions for what we could do.

6. Closing of the meeting

The meeting was closed by the chair at 17.55.