

Preface

The LISA 8 meeting took place on June 6-9, 2017 and was hosted by Observatoire astronomique de Strasbourg, in Strasbourg, France. The focus of LISA 8 was Astronomy Librarianship in the era of Big Data and Open Science. These topics are both timely and relevant to the entire astronomy community and the immediate future of the field. Over the course of the meeting, presentations were made and posters shared that represented new initiatives, progress in current projects, thoughts and ideas for the future, the creation, development and implementation of new services, support and approaches, and much more. LISA 8 was not only informative — it was engaging. It was an opportunity to learn and to network with professionals and colleagues from around the world.

With 105 participants representing more than 20 countries and almost fifty presentations and an enormous amount of information was shared through presentations and networking. Participants engaged in learning about data curation, the properties of data, data domains, diverse technologies, skills sets needed to work with data, repositories, bibliometrics, database interfaces, past and future projects, LISA and updates to critical resources and tools that we all use. Information regarding cataloging, digitization and preservation projects was shared, and the participants learned the latest news from publishers about research online, supporting authors and what the future may hold. And more! Very importantly, idea of LISA as a community was strengthened. At each LISA meeting, people gather together from all over the world to share ideas, knowledge, expertise and experiences. It takes a dedicated group of people to organize LISA and make the meeting a success.

This conference was an opportunity to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the working relationship between the 3 major data centers that are ADS, CDS and NED with the participation of the three leaders.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) was exceptional. They provided a beautiful venue, occasions for networking, and many opportunities to see beautiful Strasbourg. They welcomed participants warmly and enthusiastically. Our thanks to Soizick Lesteven (LOC Chair), Mark Allen (CDS Director), and the entire LOC for their hospitality. The Friends of LISA (FOL) made incredible efforts to seek and secure financial support for the LISA meeting. It is thanks to the FOL and our LISA sponsors and partners that many participants were able to attend the meeting.

The Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC), planned an informative and exciting program that provided participants with a wealth of information from colleagues around the world. The program had both breadth and depth. It stimulated discussions and opportunities for sharing more information even beyond the LISA meeting. Thanks to the SOC for a great program. It is very important to also acknowledge all of the individuals we agreed to Chair the sessions, all of the speakers and poster presenters, and last but not least the participants. Everyone contributed to the success of LISA 8! Finally, we wish to acknowledge the support of our many wonderful friends and partners who sponsored and supported the LISA conference. Finally, we wish to acknowledge the support of our sponsors, scholarly publishers, as well as the general support of the astronomical community, especially AAS and ESO. The formal presentations from LISA 8 are available through these Proceedings, and as such this informative meeting is available to all. We look forward to seeing you at LISA 9!

The Editors, January 2018