



Laboratory Astrophysics Division

<http://lad.aas.org/>

The purpose of the Laboratory Astrophysics Division (LAD) is to advance our understanding of the Universe through the promotion of fundamental theoretical and experimental research into the underlying processes that drive the Cosmos. The LAD holds annual scientific meetings and awards a Laboratory Astrophysics prize, normally on an annual basis.

The first new AAS Division In more than 30 years, the LAD traces its history back to the recommendation from the scientific community via the White Paper from the 2006 NASA-sponsored Laboratory Astrophysics Workshop. This recommendation was endorsed by the Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee (AAAC), which advises the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on selected issues within the fields of astronomy and astrophysics that are of mutual interest and concern to the agencies.

In January 2007, at the 209th AAS meeting, the AAS Council set up a Steering Committee to formulate Bylaws for a Working Group on Laboratory Astrophysics (WGLA). The steering committee consisted of Steven Federman (University of Toledo), Paul Goldsmith (NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory), Farid Salama (NASA Ames Research Center), and Daniel Wolf Savin (Columbia University). The WGLA was formally established with a five year mandate by the AAS Council in May 2007, at the 210th AAS meeting.

From 2008 through 2012, the WGLA annually sponsored Meetings-in-a-Meeting at the AAS Summer Meetings. The Steering Committee membership changed slightly in 2008 when R. Paul Drake (University of Michigan) replaced Paul Goldsmith and then in 2010 with the addition of Wick Haxton (University of California at Berkeley). In May 2011, at the 218th AAS meeting, the AAS Council voted to convert the WGLA, at the end of its mandate, into a Division of the AAS and requested draft Bylaws from the Steering Committee. In January 2012, at the 219th AAS Meeting, the AAS Council formally approved the Bylaws and the creation of the LAD. The inaugural gathering of the LAD was held at the 220th AAS meeting in June 2012.

Steering Committee (until elections for Officers can be held)

Paul Drake, rpdrake@umich.edu
Steven Federman, steven.federman@utoledo.edu
Wick Haxton, haxton@berkeley.edu
Farid Salama, farid.salama@nasa.gov
Daniel Wolf Savin, savin@astro.columbia.edu

Dues: Set at \$20 at the LAD Business Meeting that was held during the 220th AAS Meeting. Dues categories include full membership, for those already AAS Members, and affiliate membership, for those already members of another professional association. Dues are \$10 for Juniors.

Membership: Details on how to join the Division can be found at <http://lad.aas.org/>.

Application Procedures: To be kept informed of the details interested parties are encouraged to join the LAD mailing list (<http://lad.aas.org/>).

Tenure of Officers: The Chair serves a six-year term: the first and second years as Vice-Chair, the third and fourth years as Chair, and the fifth and sixth years as Past-Chair. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected to three-year terms. All terms begin at the close of the annual Division meeting.

Meetings: Annual, usually in conjunction with the AAS Summer Meeting.

Future Meetings

To be determined.

Awards and Grants

The *Laboratory Astrophysics Prize* is awarded, normally on an annual basis, to a scientist for "significant contributions to Laboratory Astrophysics". Nominations for the inaugural awarding of the prize will be sent out once LAD elections have been held and the required Officers are in place. For complete information about the prizes, consult the Division website.