

Editor's Note

I am pleased to release this the 2nd Newsletter of the Working Group (WG) on Wide-Field Imaging (WFI). The first was issued in January of this year, and it is the intention of myself and the WG Chairman that we should see regular releases of the WFI Newsletter on a twice-yearly basis.

We have been very pleased with the response to both the WG and the Newsletter. Membership of the WG now comprises nearly 200 persons from all over the globe. The enthusiasm to contribute articles and send information to the editor has been excellent! Please continue to send contributions for publication. In the future, I intend to aim for more short and snappy presentations, with emphasis on very recent results and news.

The Organising Committee (OC) of the WG has been very active over the past 6 months. The Committee met during two days in Baltimore earlier this year, and a very constructive meeting was held. You may read the write-up of the meeting elsewhere in this Newsletter.

One of the more important decisions taken by the OC was to hold a full meeting of the WG in August 23 – 27th 1993 in Potsdam (Germany). The purpose of that meeting is to bring together all sides of WFI, from data acquisition, data handling and archiving, techniques for data processing etc., up to the broad range of science being produced in the field of WFI. You will see Richard West's detailed plan for the meeting also in this Newsletter.

Richard and I envisage a very active and fruitful year ahead. We are truly in the middle of a very exciting period in WFI, with the 2nd epoch photographic sky surveys on the major Schmidt Telescopes now well underway, the great promise shown by the new fine-grain emulsions, the proven capabilities of digitally stacking of photographic plate scans for going much deeper, and the advent soon of deep digital surveys of the sky.

Finally, it only remains for me to say that I look forward to seeing many of you at our meeting in Potsdam next year.

Harvey T. MacGillivray
Editor