

## Editor's Note

This 3rd Newsletter of the IAU Working Group on Wide Field Imaging has turned out to be even larger than the previous two!! It indicates that the members of the WG are truly very active, and that the WG is very much alive and well. My thanks again to the contributors of this issue who responded enthusiastically to the call for contributions.

Readers will see the broad range of issues covered in the present Newsletter, from deep galaxy counts done using CCDs on large telescopes to reports of the status of plate archives and sky surveys. The WG is achieving what it hoped when started, viz covering a broad spectrum of science and a wide range of technical aspects.

1993 will be an important year for the WG, with the first major conference (now an IAU Symposium) to be held in Potsdam in Germany from 23 – 27th August. This promises to be a large and comprehensive meeting with a large number of presentations already promised.

The serious situation regarding continued availability of photographic materials must be brought in this note to the attention of members. You will see a number of items in this Newsletter relating to such, and you should read the very important announcement by our Chairman (Richard West) in the box below. In the interests of ensuring the continuation of these important emulsions from KODAK, all readers are strongly urged to complete the questionnaire at the end of the Newsletter and to return the questionnaire to KODAK.

*Harvey T. MacGillivray*

### **To all users of Photographic Emulsions!**

This Newsletter contains important information about recent developments in connection with the availability of photographic plates from KODAK. In particular it unfortunately appears that certain emulsions may not be available for some time to come. This may have profound temporary implications for astronomical programmes in many places.

A questionnaire is included in this issue (page 89) which should be filled out by all users of KODAK plates to gauge the present use of and need for astronomical emulsions from this supplier. Please note that it is very important that you take time to do so, especially since the future availability of KODAK plates may strongly depend on the perceived need!

More details will be found in the article by D. Malin on page 87. We also call your attention to the note by A. Ohnesorge about ORWO plates on page 81.

*Richard M. West*