

Chair: Randall Smith – Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
Vice Chair: Phillip Stancil – University of Georgia
Past Chair: Farid Salama – NASA Ames Research Center
Treasurer: Roberto Mancini – University of Nevada
Secretary: Daniel Wolf Savin – Columbia University
Member at Large (Dust): Crystal Brogan – NRAO
Member at Large (Nuclei): Artemis Spyrou – Michigan State University
Member at Large (Molecules): Michael McCarthy – Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
Member at Large (Planetary Science): Stefanie Milam – NASA GSFC
Member at Large (Ices): Ella Sciamma-O'Brien – BAERI, at NASA Ames Research Center
Member at Large (Plasma): John Raymond – Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
Member at Large (Particles): Kenneth Nollett – San Diego State University

The Laboratory Astrophysics Division (LAD) came into being at the Anchorage AAS meeting in June 2012. The fifth election resulted in new committee members in the areas of Molecules and Particle physics; the winners were announced at the LAD business meeting held during at the annual LAD/AAS in Denver, CO in June 2018. LAD currently has 181 members, with the majority being full members. The LAD listserv has 559 subscribers. As of 30 April 2017, \$4,949 in contributions toward the Laboratory Astrophysics Prizes sponsored by LAD and \$15,367 in additional contributions has been received.

Daniel Wolf Savin maintains the distribution list for LAD, and Farid Salama updates the Web page on the AAS server. They are supported in these tasks by the IT office. Otherwise, the various activities for the most part take place through email consultation.

A number of highlights have occurred over the past year.

The officers and committee members have publicized LAD and Laboratory Astrophysics at a number of national and international meetings to encourage the community of users and providers to join LAD (see Chronology below).

LAD Vice-Chair Phillip Stancil organized the 2018 NASA Laboratory Astrophysics Workshop meeting at the University of Georgia held from April 8-11th, 2018. Approximately 100 attendees discussed the status of laboratory astrophysics needs for a range of NASA missions, focusing on future needs.

At the Summer 2018 AAS meeting, David Neufeld gave a well-attended plenary talk for LAD on the topic of "Small Interstellar Molecules and What they Tell Us." The talk gave an overview of the exciting results obtained by the Herschel Space Observatory with a focus on the importance of laboratory astrophysics to our evolving understanding of the interstellar medium.

The winner of the 2018 Laboratory Astrophysics Prize, Dr. Michael Wiescher of the University of Notre Dame, gave an invited talk at the 2018 Annual LAD meeting in Denver.

The 2018 Dissertation Prize went to Dr. Clayton Myers from Princeton University (now at Sandia National Laboratory). He also gave an invited talk at the 2018 Annual LAD meeting in Denver.

A number of nominations are under consideration for next year's prizes, including the Laboratory Astrophysics Prize, the Early Career Award and the Dissertation Prize.

A series of sessions were held at the 2018 LAD Annual Meeting: "Bridging Laboratory and Astrophysics" organized by the LAD Committee. The lead organizer for the 2018 meeting was Phillip Stancil. This year, the sessions will cover the full range of LAD topics with special focus on the interplay between astrophysics with theoretical and experimental studies into the underlying atomic processes that drive our Universe and will include sessions on atoms, molecules, dust and ice, plasmas, planetary science, and nuclear and particle physics. More information can be found at <https://lad.aas.org/meetings/2017>

We have continued to seek connections with other Divisions of the AAS.

A special session devoted to laboratory astrophysics has been proposed to be held at the HEAD meeting in August 2017, in Sun Valley, Idaho. The session, entitled "Understanding the Nuclear Equation of State from the Earth to the Stars – A Joint HEAD/LAD Session" is organized by Randall Smith will include three 30-min long presentations.

A fund-raising campaign was started by Roberto Mancini (LAD treasurer) with the help of the Office of exhibits and Development. A list of potential sponsors from laboratory instrument companies has been established. Plans for establishing a general endowment to fund the Division's prizes have also been discussed.

LAD Events' Chronology:

- 04 Sep 2017: Nominations due for Laboratory Astrophysics Prize (LAP) and Early Career Award (ECA)
- Sep 2017: Honor Committee formed
- Sep 2017: Call sent out for Dissertation Prize
- Oct 2017: Special Session speaker abstracts submitted for AAS Winter meeting
- Oct 2017:AAS Leadership Meeting
- Oct 2017:Completed proposed sessions and speakers for 2018 LAD meeting
- Oct 2017: Reminded AAS office of the joint LAD meeting at the AAS Summer meeting
- Dec 2017: Prepared press release for LAP winner. The ECA was not awarded for 2018.
- 31 Dec 2017: Nominations for Dissertation Prize due
- 11 Jan 2018: AAS Winter meeting LAD sessions "Water, Water, Everywhere"
- Jan 2018: LAP awarded announced
- Jan 2018: Dissertation Prize winner selected
- Feb 2018: Ask IT staff update LAD membership list to prepare for upcoming election
- Feb 2018: Beginning of 16 week election period. Sent out call for two open Members-at-Large seats (in Molecules and in Particles). Form Nominations Committee.
- Apr 2018: Close of nomination period. Candidate slate received from Nominating Committee
- May 2018: Voting begins
- June 2018: Have AAS IT update the LAD Executive Committee mailing list
- June 2018: Sent out final call for nominations for the 2019 Laboratory Astrophysics Prize (LAP) and Early Career Award (EAC) nominees
- 01 July 2018: Closing date for LAP and EAC nominations
- July 2018: Created list of nominees and their institutions and letter writers and their institutions to guide in the formation of an Honors Committee free of any conflicts of interest
- July 2018: Honors Committee formed