FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

ESO Conference on Chemical Evolution from Zero to High Redshift

ESO Headquarters, Garching, Germany

October 14–16, 1998

The topic of the conference is the determination and interpretation of chemical abundances and evolution from stars, interstellar medium and local group galaxies at zero redshift to distant galaxies, clusters of galaxies and inter-galactic medium at high redshift. Whilst problems undoubtedly remain in the determination of stellar and nebular abundances in the nearby Milky Way, results are beginning to converge.

The observational and interpretative tools are starting to be mature enough that they can be applied with some confidence to extra-galactic systems and integrated populations at increasingly high redshift.

Ultimately the tools should be applicable to determination of the chemistry and enrichment of young galaxies at large look-back times.

The broad aim of the conference is to assess the interplay between methods of measuring chemical abundances with the astrophysical models of galaxy evolution. About half of the conference will be devoted to consideration of abundances and the factors that regulate them in nearby well-studied systems of the Milky Way and Local Group Galaxies. The remainder will concentrate on more distant systems where the abundance data is more slender and the tools under refinement. In addition there will be sessions on forthcoming and future instrumentation applicable to abundance determinations across the whole electromagnetic spectrum. The format for the meeting is invited talks, with contributed papers as talks or posters and some discussion sessions.

There will be five main facets to the conference. The invited speakers are indicated.

- Milky Way stellar and ISM abundance patterns and their models
(Gustafsson, Lennon, Peimbert, McWilliam, Meyer and Matteucci)

- Abundances in nearby galaxies and clusters: observations
(Pagel, Skillman, Garnett, Worthey and Renzini)

- Evolution of abundances (e.g. effect of dynamics, mergers, supernovae)
(Thielemann, Edmunds, Haehnelt and Kauffmann)

- Abundances in the distant Universe (QSO absorption lines and starburst galaxies) and primordial abundances
(Pettini, Songaila, Combes,Leitherer and Tytler)

- New windows on abundance determinations in the UV, optical-IR, X-ray and radio
(Jenkins, D'Odorico, Kahn and Thatte)

Conference summary by S. White

Scientific Organising Committee:
F. Combes, D. Garnett, G. Kauffmann, C. Leitherer, D. Lennon, J. Mathis [Chair], M. Pettini, M. Rosa, P. Shaver, E. Terlevich

Local Organising Committee:
G. Contardo, J. Walsh, C. Stoffer

Registration has already begun and the deadline for registration is 1 August 1998.

More details and a registration form can be found at:
http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/meetings/chemev98/
or contact: chemev98@eso.org for further information.

The Astronomical Almanac to Be Revised

The U.S. Naval Observatory and the Royal Greenwich Observatory are currently conducting a thorough review of the content and format of the Astronomical Almanac.

In order to assess the needs of the users, a survey is being conducted by the two offices and users can make their needs known in detail by accessing the site http://www.ast.cam.ac.uk/nao/survey.html or writing to Dr. Alan D. Fiala adf@newcomb.usno.navy.mil.

The survey will close on 1 August 1998.

List of Scientific Preprints

(March–May 1998)

1263. Contributions of the ESO Data Management and Operations Division to the SPIE Workshop "Observatory Operations to Optimize Scientific Return". 20–21 March 1998.
1264. P.A. Mazzali et al.: Nebular Velocities in Type Ia Supernovae and their Relationship to Light Curves.
1265. O.R. Hainaut et al.: Early Recovery of Comet 55P/Temple-Tuttle. *A&A.*
1266. J.C. Vega Beltrán et al.: Mixed Early- and Late-Type Properties in the Bar of NGC 6221: Evidence for Evolution Along the Hubble Sequence. *A&A.*
1267. M. Turatto et al.: The Peculiar Type II Supernova 1997 D: A Case for a Very Low ^{56}Ni Mass.
1268. F. Bresolin et al.: An HST Study of Extragalactic OB Associations. *The Astronomical Journal.*
1269. F. Comerón et al.: ISO Observations of Candidate Young Brown Dwarfs. *A&A.*
1270. D.R. Silva and G.D. Bothun: The Ages of Disturbed Field Elliptical Galaxies: I. Global Properties. *The Astronomical Journal.*