

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce IAU Symposium 280 on:

The Molecular Universe

May 30 - June 3, 2011 Toledo, Spain

http://cab.inta-csic.es/molecular_universe

This meeting is the 6'th in a series of IAU Symposia on Astrochemistry, following the 1985 Goa, 1991 Brazil, 1996 Leiden, 1999 Korea and 2005 Asilomar symposia.

The main goal of the meeting is to bring together observers, theoreticians, and experimentalists from different communities to discuss the many different aspects of our rapidly developing field.

The Scientific Organizing Committee is formed by the IAU Working Group on Astrochemistry of IAU Commission 34/Division VI (Interstellar Medium), whereas the Local Organizing Committee is led by the Department of Astrophysics of the CAB (CSIC-INTA) and the Observatorio Astronomico Nacional (OAN) in Madrid.

Topics include:

- star-forming regions from cold pre-stellar clouds to hot cores
- protoplanetary disks
- exoplanets and their atmospheres
- solar system objects from comets to Kuiper Belt
- envelopes around evolved stars
- extragalactic astrochemistry out to high redshift
- diffuse and dense interstellar clouds
- laboratory astrochemistry: gas and solid state
- theoretical studies of basic molecular data
- new tools for the analysis of spectral data
- role of heterogeneity and dynamics in chemical modeling
- "hot" results from Herschel and promise of ALMA

The meeting will be held on the beautifully renovated campus of the Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha in Toledo, close to the old city walls (<http://www.toledo-turismo.com/turismo/contenido/vive-toledo.aspx>). Toledo is about 1 hr travel from Madrid and easily can be reached by train or car.

We look forward to see many of you in Toledo in 2011, Don't forget to bookmark the Website and note the dates in your agenda. The next announcement containing the list of invited speakers will be sent in September 2010.

On behalf of the SOC:

Ewine van Dishoeck (chair)

Eric Herbst (vice-chair)

On behalf of the LOC:

José Cernicharo (chair)

Rafael Bachiller (vice-chair)

P.S. You can help us to reach a large interdisciplinary audience by distributing this announcement to other interested colleagues within or outside your institute.

Prof. J.Cernicharo

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----- Dr. Marcelo Castellanos

Gestor Equipo Consolider-Ingenio "Molecular Astrophysics in the
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