

1 Foreword

In 2014, the IERS continued to provide products to the scientific and operational communities. It is serving the changing needs of its users in the fields of celestial reference frames, terrestrial reference frames, Earth orientation parameters (EOPs), geophysical data, and the standards used to produce these important data sets.

The concerted effort to achieve a new terrestrial reference frame continues. The new realization, now called ITRF2014, is expected to be released in early 2016 and will provide an improvement over the existing ITRF2008.

The ICRS Centre continued to participate in the organization of the upcoming ICRF-3. It cooperated with the ICRF-3 Working Group, which held meetings in advance of the 2015 International Astronomical Union (IAU) General Assembly.

In an effort to provide better service to the community, the IERS Conventions Centre established the IERS Conventions Editorial Board. The Board provides additional resources and expertise that can be utilized to address changes to the Conventions.

The Fourth Unified Analysis Workshop, jointly sponsored by the IERS and the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), was held 27 – 28 June 2014 in Pasadena, CA, USA. For a list of the issues addressed and a summary of the recommendations, see the report of the Analysis Coordinator (Chapter 3.3) and <http://www.iers.org/UAW2014>.

The IAU has finished voting on its reorganization. Based on its results, it is expected that the IERS will work predominantly with Division A: Commissions A1 Astrometry, A2 Rotation of the Earth, and A3 Fundamental Standards. The IERS looks forward to continuing its relationship with the IAU through these commissions and other components of the IAU.

There have been multiple changes of the personnel of the IERS Directing Board in 2014. Christine Hackman replaced me as the Director of the Rapid Service/Prediction Centre. Ralph Gaume stepped down as the co-director of the ICRS Centre. He was replaced by Bryan Dorland in September 2015.

*Brian Luzum
Chair, IERS Directing Board, 2014*