1 Foreword

The big news for the IERS in 2017 was the adoption of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame 2014 (ITRF2014). In support of the ITRF2014, IERS Technical Note #38 ("Analysis and results of ITRF2014") was released in early 2017. On a related note, IERS Technical Note #39 ("IGN best practices for surveying instrument reference points at ITRF co-location sites") was also published in 2017.

In accordance with the change in the ITRF, the Earth orientation series of the IERS Earth Orientation Center (EOC) and Rapid Service/Prediction Center (RS/PC) were realigned to be consistent with ITRF2014. As a result, the 14C04 series replaced the 08C04 series.

The IERS Conventions made several changes in 2017. First, the Conventions web site and ftp site were reorganized. Second, a number of modifications to the electronic version of the Conventions were made in order to be consistent with current international standards and conventional models. For more information on these changes, please consult the IERS Conventions web sites.

Along with the International Associate of Geodesy (IAG) and the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), the IERS co-sponsored the Unified Analysis Workshop (UAW), which was held 10–12 July 2017 in Paris, France. Some of the recommendations from this meeting have already been adopted by the scientific community while the others are expected to be adopted as time and resources permit.

The IERS Directing Board (DB) welcomed two new DB members. Guangli Wang replaced Chopo Ma as one of the IVS representatives to the IERS and Richard Gross replaced Bernd Richter as the GGOS representative to the IERS. The IERS owes a tremendous debt to both Chopo and Bernd for their decades of service to the IERS and to the international scientific community. We were fortunate to have their leadership for several years and the IERS would not be what it is without their contributions. We wish Chopo and Bernd well in their retirement.

Brian Luzum
Chair, IERS Directing Board, 2017