
ANITA ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Prepared by Ilya Mandel (ANITA Chair)

18 June 2023

1. Steering committee

1.1 List of current steering committee members and their terms

The ANITA Steering Committee currently consists of:

Chair

Ilya Mandel (Monash University, through 2024)

Members:

Fiona Panther (UWA, through 2025, Secretary)

Greg Poole (ADACS/Swinburne, through 2025, Treasurer)

Amanda Karakas (Monash, through 2025)

Darren Croton (Swinburne, through 2024, Deputy Chair)

Ivo Seitzenzahl (ADFA/UNSW, through 2024)

Thor Tepper Garcia (U Sydney, through 2024)

Student representatives:

Sabrina Berger (U Melbourne)

1.2 Date and outcome of last election

Call for nominations was announced to the ASA mailing list in February 2022. Ilya Mandel served as returning officer.

The number of nominees exceeded the number of available slots. Deb Gooley ran the elections via SurveyMonkey.

Fiona Panther and Greg Poole were re-elected and retained their positions of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Amanda Karakas was elected to join the steering committee. Sabrina Berger joined as a student representative (unopposed).

Bernhard Mueller is the liaison to the ASA Council.

We thank outgoing committee members Chayan Chatterjee and Samuel Verne for their service to ANITA.

2. Chapter statistics

The membership of ANITA currently stands at 247 people (vs. 246 last year). Of these, 30% are female, 67% are male, and 3% are in other categories or preferred not to state their gender. These statistics are unchanged from last year.

42% of the members are student members, a drop from 48% last year.

We did not have ready access to geographic distribution this year. Last year, 34% of the membership was in VIC, 17% in WA, 15% in the ACT, 15% in NSW, 6% in QLD, 2% each in SA and TAS, while 9% of the members were overseas.

The nine members of the steering committee comprise one student, two postdocs, one professional, and 4 faculty. Three steering committee members are female, vs. just one last year.

3. Chapter activities

ANITA2022 WORKSHOP

<https://anita.edu.au/workshop2023/>

The ANITA 2023 annual workshop was held in hybrid mode, at the University of Adelaide in Adelaide, SA and over zoom. We met for three days on 8-10 February, 2023. There were 80 registered participants. We enjoyed 40 talks from speakers representing more than 10 institutions. The participant numbers are relatively steady (77 in 2022), while the number of talks represented an increase (31 in 2022).

The majority of talks (23 of 40) were given by students, and the overwhelming majority were by ECRs. We allocated 20 minutes to each talk (including questions and changeover). As a motivation for people to attend talks outside their normal field of interest, we interspersed talks from different fields and did not announce talk titles.

Giulia Cinquegrana (Monash) was awarded the ANITA best student talk prize, recently renamed in honour of J-P Macquart, along with a \$100 gift certificate. Elisabeth Borchert (Monash) received the runner-up award.

We carried out an exit survey and received positive feedback.

2023 ANITA SUMMER SCHOOL

“ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS”

<https://anita.edu.au/workshop2023/school.html>

The ANITA 2023 summer school on “Astroparticle Physics” was held on February 6-7 at the University of Adelaide, with some participants joining over zoom.

Sabrina Einecke, Paul Lasky, Fiona Panther and Gavin Rowell were the instructors.

We thank Gavin Rowell and Sabrina Einecke, who made significant contributions to hosting and organising the workshop and school along with ANITA steering committee members.

UPDATED ANITA WEBSITE

Darren Croton led the re-organisation of the ANITA website last year. The new-look website, still available at <https://anita.edu.au/> but now supported by a GitHub back end, is both more visually appealing, easier to maintain, and more secure.

SHARING RECORDED ANITA TALKS

We have restarted recording seminars on topics relevant to theoretical astrophysics and posting them to the ANITA YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbSpRiV6DI0Lf9PJopEO5g>. The goal is to provide access to colleagues at institutions that have limited size or funding for regular astro-theory seminars. Unfortunately, the Covid lockdown put this on hold, but we intend to resume this activity as soon as possible. In the meantime, the 2021 & 2022 ANITA summer school talks/tutorials were posted to this location.

4. Financial Reporting

Finances from the 2022 workshop and school.

J-P Macquart Best Student Talk Prize awards: \$100

Catering expenses: \$5957

Total cost to ASA: \$6057

We had unexpectedly large catering expenses this year, and are grateful to the ASA for supporting the costs. Going forward, we will keep ASA costs within \$2000 or obtain prior approval.

5. Future activities

5.1 A summary of future activities planned for the next 12 months

We hope that the 2024 ANITA workshop and school will be hosted at Monash University, Melbourne, coordinated by Evgeni Grishin and Daniel Price, on February 5-9, 2024. The ANITA steering committee is actively working on planning for this event.

We expect that the 2025 workshop will be held at ANU and locally hosted by Mark Krumholz.

We encourage participating universities to add more talks to the ANITA YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbSpRiV6DI0Lf9PJopEO5g>.

5.2 A forecast of expense over the next 12 months

We anticipate using our \$2k budget towards hosting of the 2024 ANITA workshop at Monash.