## Astronomical Society of Republic of China 2009 Scientific Assembly (ASROC2009)

National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, Checheng, Pingtung May 22 – 24, 2009

The 2009 Scientific Assembly of the Astronomical Society of Republic of China (ASROC2009) will be held at National Museum of Marine Biology & Aquarium on May 22 – 24, 2009. This is the annual event for all astronomers and astrophysicists in Taiwan to demonstrate their most recent discoveries and observations, to report their latest research results and to exchange ideas, also to organize cooperation when desirable. Oral presentations and conference posters in all areas of astronomy and astrophysics are solicited. ASROC2009 is an excellent venue, too, for students, in particular graduate students, to present their research finding or progress from their thesis studies.

The meeting will include plenary talks, scientific sessions, poster presentations, a business meeting, and an educational symposium. The plenary talks feature (1) Prof. Geoffrey Marcy, the world-renowned exoplanet finder, of University California – Berkeley, and (2) Dr. Shoken Miyama, the director of National Astronomical Observatory, Japan. Additionally, special events are being prepared for to celebrate the  $400^{th}$  anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo Galilei.

In coordination with the International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009) activities to celebrate and promote astronomy, exhibitions of astronomical books and instruments, astrophotographs and individuals' observing equipment will be held at this ASROC assembly for amateur astronomers and the general public. Furthermore, an exhibition of Taiwan's existing and/or future major astronomical facilities and projects is also planned. In addition, stargazing carnival participated by the Ken-Ting Observatory (KTO) and amateur astronomers for the general public will be taken place in the evenings during the meeting. Further details will be announced in the  $2^{nd}$  circular.

ASROC2009 website will be ready by mid-March, and on-line registration will be available from March 20, 2009. Participants of the scientific assembly should submit their abstracts and register on-line by April 24, 2009. A registration fee of NT\$500 should be paid on site.

The Astronomical Society cordially invites you to participate in this annual event with all the many interesting and exciting activities, not to mention the beautiful scenery and relaxed atmosphere in the Kenting National Park at the southern tip of Taiwan. For more details and updated information, please visit the ASROC website at <a href="http://www.cast.org.tw/">http://www.cast.org.tw/</a>.

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