

Dr. Mario M. Bisi – AOGS ST President Candidate 2015 – Mission Statement

Solar-Terrestrial Physics within AOGS is one of the largest and most-active scientific areas, frequently coming in second in terms of the number of abstracts submitted, number of attendees at the AOGS, and the number of highly-interesting and pertinent sessions. I would like to work hard with you all to try to make ST the *TOP* section within AOGS. Further encouragement is needed for those from within the AOGS region to attend, as well as those from outside the region to exchange fruitfully our scientific knowledge and findings thus driving the field forward at a greater pace with a higher-level of interest and understanding. My strong ties into the European and American regions will aid greatly in enhancing these international connections and scientist participations at the AOGS meetings.

I want to make sure that AOGS for ST scientists remains, what is probably, one of the top two or three annual meetings for ST science (perhaps only second to the annual Fall AGU meeting and the occasional more-specialist ST-related workshop). I have been the Sun and Heliosphere (ST-H) Secretary since 2011, and in that time I have worked hard within ST where ST-H has consistently become the largest sub-section of ST in recent years having sometimes 50% or more of the ST Sessions. Working with the other ST Secretaries and the outgoing President, I am sure that all of ST can build and grow further while retaining the ‘small meeting’ feel and atmosphere that we all love about the AOGS meeting.

I would like to increase further the validity and interest in poster sessions. Looking to the much-larger Fall AGU as an example here where something like 80% of abstracts are given as poster presentations. This, in turn, leads to very-active and sometimes animated interactions at posters that often form the basis of new and on-going scientific discussions and collaborations. ST within AOGS can try to get closer to this by simply encouraging attendees to have a second abstract (since the registration fee covers up to two abstracts). This will not only allow for the possibility of a greater number of oral sessions, but also for a greater number of posters and perhaps a lower percentage of invited abstracts as a result (which has been a small problem for some smaller sessions in recent years). Overall, this would result in a larger amount of fruitful ST science at AOGS meetings.

In addition, although much work has already been done in forming links and joint sessions between ST and other sections within AOGS, I feel yet more can be done here and this is something that needs to be encouraged and further discussions are needed on this within AOGS with other section presidents (such as PS, AS, and IG).

One last feeling that I have is that I think it is time for a formal joint ST meeting between AOGS ST and the relevant counterparts from both AGU and EGU in one venue outside of the more-encompassing AGU/AOGS meetings and the more-focussed individual Solar Wind/URSI/Workshop-type meetings where the meeting is entirely focussed on the Solar-Terrestrial Sciences. I want to explore such options with the relevant ST Presidents/Secretaries from AOGS, AGU, and EGU to see if there is an interest in this and if this were able to be made possible.