

Subject: LISA IV conference

Date: Tue, 04 Dec 2001 14:58:02 +0100

From: Uta Grothkopf <esolib@eso.org>

Organization: European Southern Observatory

To: bas@starkmann.co.uk

Dr. B. Starkmann
Starkmann Inc.
London, UK

Dear Dr. Starkmann,

You may be aware that astronomy librarians regularly hold international meetings tailored for our needs; these are the so-called LISA (Library and Information Services in Astronomy) conferences, see <http://www.eso.org/libraries/lisa.html> .

In 1995, Starkmann supported LISA II through a generous donation. We are now planning the fourth meeting in this series, to be held in Prague, Czech Republic, July 2-5, 2002. May we ask you once again to consider helping colleagues from economically less fortunate countries who otherwise will not be able to attend? Your donation will be highly appreciated. For your information, I enclose a letter on behalf of the "Friends of LISA" committee.

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Uta Grothkopf
ESO Library
esolib@eso.org

The world of publishing and the process of disseminating research data and results have changed dramatically and continue to evolve at a rapid pace. Libraries and library services in astronomy must and do progress concurrently. Traditional collections and services have been supplemented and even eclipsed by a variety of electronic materials and corresponding services.

Astronomy librarians are constantly scrambling just to keep up with these and other changes and they work hard to learn the new skills and techniques needed for new models of service.

In order to help them do this, the Fourth Library and Information Services in Astronomy conference (LISA IV) is being held at the Astronomical Institute, Charles University, Prague in July 2002. Very successful and productive LISA conferences have been held previously in 1988, 1995 and 1998.

We hope to assist astronomy librarians in resource-poor countries to attend this conference by collecting sufficient funds to cover their housing, a small per diem, and, in some cases, travel expenses. To do that we need help and are asking Starkmann Inc. to make a donation to Friends of LISA IV. Donations will benefit both the librarians who would not otherwise be able to attend without this financial assistance, and the other librarians who will reap the rewards of a richer and more diverse conference.

The generous contributions of Starkmann and others helped sponsor dozens of librarians at previous LISA meetings. Those librarians thus assisted were both grateful and enriched by the conference experience and upon their return home were able to share their newly acquired knowledge with

other colleagues. So we look forward to receiving your assistance towards achieving similar results at the 2002 meeting.

Thank you in advance for your contribution. Starkmann's name will of course appear in conference materials as a donor.

Please make checks payable to Friends of LISA and mail to Ellen N. Bouton, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, 520 Edgemont Rd., Charlottesville VA 22903-2475 USA.

Sincerely,

Marlene Cummins
for the Friends of LISA IV Committee

Ellen Bouton
National Radio Astronomy Observatory

Brenda Corbin
United States Naval Observatory

Marlene Cummins
Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of Toronto

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