

Editorial

As we wrap up our celebration of dark and quiet skies, the Office for Astronomy Outreach Team wishes you countless nights unaffected by light pollution. We hope you are able to experience the awe of seeing a sky awash with stars.

This Special Edition of CAPjournal celebrates the work featured at the Communicating Astronomy with the Public Conference, which took place in September 2022. This conference turned a new page for CAP as the first hybrid conference that took place in-person in Sydney, Australia, and online.

For this edition of CAPjournal, we asked Ramasamy Venugopal and Samir Dhurde (the co-chairs of the CAP Conferences Working Group), as well as Richard Tresch Fienberg (former president of IAU Commission C2), and Oana Sandu (current president of IAU Commission C2) to give us an overview of how these conferences have evolved.

This edition, which is presented in lieu of a proceeding (though this certainly does not cover the breadth of what was discussed at CAP 2022), features four of the top talks presented at the conference.

Libraries are a place of endless imagination, including imagining yourself in a STEM career. In our first article, *Cosmic Curiosity: Why collaborating with libraries results in impactful family engagement with astronomy*, the author presents a collaborative project that aims to engage parents and carers for the benefit of child STEM identity and career development. To ensure these youngsters have a chance to fulfil their dreams of becoming aerospace engineers, astronauts, or planetary geologists, there must first be an Earth on which to study these fields. The article *Driving action on the climate crisis through Astronomers for Planet Earth and beyond* presents the international organisation, *Astronomers for Planet Earth*, which aims to encourage astronomers to critically look at our practices here on Earth while we study the cosmos above. Our next article asks how astronomy can benefit humanity outside its intellectual pursuits. *The astronomy for mental health guidelines: A living document for the community* focuses on the power that astronomy has to inspire awe, curiosity, and change mindsets. This article presents the *Astronomy for Mental Health Guidelines*, which is a collaboratively built set of recommendations to build programmes that have been shown to improve mental health and well-being. Our final article, *An accessibility case study incorporating rich visual descriptions for Chandra's high-energy universe*, makes the wonders of astronomy available to all through touch, sight, and sound. This article presents three case studies that highlight unique ways to bring more people into the conversation of astronomy by providing resources and pathways to engage with astronomy.

All of these articles exemplify the theme of CAP 2022: *astronomy for a better world*. We are hopeful that through these works — and the many others shared at CAP 2022 — we will discover new ways to collaborate, build bridges, and understand our Universe just a little bit better.

Lina Canas
Editor-in-Chief

Kelly Blumenthal
Managing Editor



Contents

Communicating Astronomy with the Public Conference 2022 – At a glance	4
IAU Selects Names for 20 Exoplanetary Systems – The NameExoWorlds global contest names the next set of exoplanets and host stars	5
Explained in 60 seconds: CAP – Communicating Astronomy with the Public Conferences	8
Cosmic curiosity: Why collaborating with libraries results in impactful family engagement with astronomy	9
Driving action on the climate crisis through <i>Astronomers for Planet Earth</i> and beyond	15
<i>The Astronomy for Mental Health Guidelines: a live document for the community</i>	21
An accessibility case study incorporating rich visual descriptions for <i>Chandra's</i> high-energy universe	25

Cover: This issue of CAPjournal celebrates a select few of the highlights from CAP Conference 2022. Though it took place in person in Sydney, Australia, people from 43 different countries tuned in to share their knowledge and learn. Though the Covid-19 pandemic was devastating for millions of people around the world, it taught us the value of connection, both personally and professionally. Hybrid meetings, like CAP 2022, afford us a bright future in which we can gather perspectives from all over the world.