

A vertical column of ten circular logos, each featuring a globe with the letters 'IAI' in red, positioned on the left side of the slide.

IAI Newsletter Report

Background

The IAI Newsletter is one of the institutional outreach activities of major importance.

It brings:

- a continuous updated view and information about the IAI's programmatic and institutional activities, plans and offers; and
- the results of the IAI scientists' work in the different areas of the Science Agenda.

1st. Issue – December 1992



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Background - 2

Planning and preparation of the Newsletter:

1992-1994 – Editor and Implementation Committee

1994-1997 – EC supervision

1997-2002 – Communications Task Force

2003-present – Editorial Board (IAI Directorate)

From 2004, some financial concerns due to escalating costs resulted in:

The IAI Directorate promotes, as a measure with minimum damage, to reduce the frequency from 4 to 3 numbers per year, maintaining the same structure and keeping the number of pages up to 28.



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Background - 3

The decision was informed to EC 19 in Buenos Aires, June 2004, for comments and possible endorsement.

The Council agreed to this reduction for the year 2004 and recommended a group to analyze the issue and report to EC 20.

The CoP 11 supported this recommendation.

Composition of the group:

- *Editorial Board,*
- *IAI Financial Officer, and*
- *Barbara Garea as CoP member.*

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History of the last issues of IAI Newsletter

Number	Dated	Released	Pages
25	Mar – Jun 2001	July 2001	28
26	Jul – Sep 2001	Nov 2001	24
27	Jan – Jun 2002	Jun 2002	28
28	Jul – Sep 2002	Oct 2002	32
29	Oct – Dec 2002	Jan 2003	28
30	Jan – Mar 2003	Apr 2003	24
31	Apr – Jun 2003	Jul 2003	28
32	Jul – Sep 2003	Oct 2003	36
33	Oct – Dec 2003	Feb 2004	28
34	Jan – Apr 2004	Jun 2004	28
35	May – Aug 2004	Nov 2004	28
36	Sep – Dec 2004	Apr/Jun 2005?	28



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Additional information on newsletter sustainability

- During 2001 and half 2002 the newsletter was issued irregularly.
- A period of regular issues started in July 2002, with one issue published and distributed every 3 months.
- By the end of 2003 and after withstanding with the load of contributing to regular quarterly newsletter issues for one year, the IAI Directorate promoted a measure to cut the funds assigned to the Newsletter
- The main reason to support this decision was based on the financial point of view



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Most of the members of the group held a meeting on May 1, at IAI Directorate

Participants: J. Stewart, C. Ereño, B. Garea, SO, FAO, TCO

Main conclusions – 1:

- **The 2005–2006 budget required for 4 issues of the newsletter is US\$ 45,067. If it is reduced to 3 issues the budget will be US\$ 33,977**
- **J. Stewart expressed his concern on the workload put on the Directorate staff as to support the needs of input for the Newsletter, because the staff is reduced and has several other responsibilities and duties**
- **The Editorial board has not provided much guidance about the content of the Newsletter (particularly SAC members).**



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Main conclusions – 2:

- Independent on the number of issues per year it is important to strengthen the content of the Newsletter and go more in depth in its substance,
 - include lectures of the IAI Training Institutes, or
 - have articles and updates of current IAI projects, or
 - include information about global change and activities of IAI in the IAI countries.
- To develop an annual plan handy to plan their content in advance and in a balanced way, and to have a stronger participation of PIs and co-PIs and country representatives
- To have the next issue highlighting the IAI Training Institutes, and also special issues on results of the IAI science programs (e.g. CRN or SGP) in the future



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Main conclusions – 3:

- It was agreed not to take any permanent decisions made at this time as we will have a new Director and Program Manager starting soon at the IAI and new SAC members elected at the next CoP
- It was agreed to have 3 issues of the Newsletter produced in 2005
- A new composition of the editorial board with one member of the SAC, one representative of the CoP.
- The role, tasks and membership of the board need to be clearly defined.



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Conclusions and recommendations

- To maintain the production of 3 issues of the Newsletter in 2005
- To modify the composition of the Editorial Board, adding a CoP representative in replacement of one of the SAC representatives
- To approve the recommendations made by the group established to analyze the issue of the Newsletter as to improve its content and plan on a yearly basis the edition of issues devoted to subjects relevant to the IAI activities.
- After this year, the new Editorial Board will evaluate the advisability of maintaining the production of 3 issues per year and will report to the EC.