

## **Brown dwarfs come of age**

*Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, May 20-24, 2013*

### **Scientific Organizing Committee**

Juan M. Alcalá (Osservatorio Astronomico di Capodimonte - INAF),  
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Michael Bessel (Mount Stromlo Observatory),  
Adam Burgasser (University of California at San Diego),  
Christiane Helling (University of St Andrews),  
Antonio Magazzù (co-chair, Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica),  
Eduardo L. Martín (co-chair, Centro de Astrobiología - CSIC),  
Estelle Moraux (Institut de Planétologie et d'Astrophysique de Grenoble),  
Phan Bao Ngoc (Vietnam National University),  
Rafael Rebolo (Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias),  
Beate Stelzer (Osservatorio Astronomico di Palermo - INAF)

### **Local Organizing Committee**

Antonio Magazzù (chair),  
Mave Martín Rodríguez,  
Avet Harutyunyan,  
Nauzet Hernandez,  
Vania Lorenzi,  
Enrique de Ferra,  
Miriam Aberasturi,  
Carolyn Lebron

### **Host Institution**

Telescopio Nazionale Galileo/Fundación Galileo Galilei - INAF

## FOREWORD

The international conference *Brown Dwarfs come of Age* was held in an extraordinary location in the south of Fuerteventura (Canary Islands), from May 20 to 24, 2013. The aim of this meeting was to present and discuss in a motivating atmosphere the abundant harvest of scientific results produced over the past 18 years since the discoveries of the first brown dwarfs. The participation of many young scientists made this conference especially lively and confirmed that this field of research is still blooming and promising.

An active Scientific Organizing Committee collaborated in selecting the invited talks and refining a stimulating scientific program. This was divided in 7 sessions, with the addition of a breathless poster advert session and a thorough panel discussion on the brown dwarf-exoplanet connection, featuring a challenging and amusing “planet/not a planet” poll. Eighty-two participants from 15 countries presented 47 oral contributions and 29 posters, on a schedule that also allowed plenty of free time for interaction.

An efficient and skillful Local Organizing Committee ensured a painless preparation and a smooth running of this meeting. In particular, this conference never would have taken place without Mave Martín, who played a crucial role in every step of the organization process. There are not enough words to acknowledge her dedicated effort and invaluable contribution.

The highlights of the social program were an unexpected karaoke night and a moonlit conference dinner in a beach by a lagoon, followed by an after-party dancing in the sand. Moreover, an entertaining public lecture, given by María Rosa Zapatero Osorio, attracted an interested audience from the whole island.

We thank the Fundación Galileo Galilei-INAF (operating the Telescopio Nazionale Galileo in La Palma), that offered financial support to young scientists and colleagues from economically less privileged countries. We are also grateful to the local authorities (Cabildo de Fuerteventura, Patronato de Turismo de Fuerteventura, and Ayuntamiento de Pájara) for their contributions to this meeting, and to the extremely cooperative managers and staff of the R2 Río Calma Hotel.

This conference was inspired by Alcman, fr. 26<sup>1</sup>:

οὐ μ' ἔτι, παρσενικαὶ μελιγάρυες ἰαρόφωνοι,  
 γυῖα φέρην δύναται· βάλει δὴ βάλει κηρύλος εἶην,  
 ὅς τ' ἐπὶ κύματος ἄνθος ἄμ' ἀλκυόνεσσι ποτῆται  
 νηδεὲς ἦτορ ἔχων, ἀλιπόρφυρος ἰαρός ὄρνις.

Antonio Magazzù and Eduardo L. Martín

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<sup>1</sup> see e.g. Vestrheim, G. 2004, *Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies*, 44, 5

