

## Agenda: AAS Department and Program Chairs Meeting 2008

Friday 31 October 2008: O'Hare Hilton

6pm or when your plane gets in: "Astro 101"

We'll have a room where we can bring food from the hotel restaurant.

Suggested topics:

- teaching with technology: what works well, what doesn't?
- "student-centred learning activities": what works well, what doesn't?
- selected topics, or a broad survey course?
- using the International Year of Astronomy to attract interest

Saturday 1 November 2008: O'Hare Hilton

8:00 am onwards breakfast (bagels, coffee, tea, etc.)

8:30 am meeting begins: welcome and introductions

9:00 am Discussion of the 2010 Decadal Survey

Roger Blandford, Chair of the committee, and Michael Moloney of the Board on Physics and Astronomy of the National Academies, will join us by phone

10:00 am Break

10:45 am news from the National Science Foundation

Eileen Friel, Division of Astronomical Sciences, NSF

11:45 am a chance to talk over what we've heard about future planning for astronomy

12:30 pm lunch provided by AAS

2:00 pm International Year of Astronomy

Kevin Marvel, AAS Executive Officer

Also: "Women in Astronomy" October 21-23 2009, U. Maryland

2:30 pm training future astronomers (Steve Spangler)  
are students well prepared for graduate study?  
how are your graduate courses changing?  
difficulties in supporting students through their graduate

studies

are PhD graduates finding good jobs, in astronomy or elsewhere?

postdoc training: what preparation do you seek in faculty candidates?

3:15 pm action items for 2010 (Linda Sparke)

3:30 pm? brownie break

4:00 pm university assessment of program outcomes (Neal Evans)

4:30 pm meeting adjourns