

Monday, June 16, 2008 6:11 PM
Xu Guangqi invitation

Dear All,

As you know, the United Nations have recently decided the 2009 to be the International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009) to give a worldwide celebration of Astronomy and its contributions to society and culture, highlighted by the 400th anniversary of the first use of an astronomical telescope by Galileo Galilei.

On behalf of the International Center of Relativistic Astrophysics Network (ICRANet) we are organizing, jointly with the Shanghai Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, for this celebration, a scientific meeting to be held in Shanghai 2009. This meeting will cover on the first day historical aspects related to the activities of Matteo Ricci (Ri Ma To) (see http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matteo_Ricci) and his Chinese School, the most famous being Xu Guan Xi (see http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xu_Guangqi) as well as, in the remaining three days, most recent perspectives on developments in the most advanced field of Research: Relativistic Astrophysics. The meeting to be held in Shanghai will be named "The first Xu Guangqi meeting on Relativistic Astrophysics".

We have already begun to work on the meeting with the local organizing committee chaired by Prof. Jing Yi-Peng. We have also begun to think about the possible members of the International Organizing and Scientific Committees and many of them have already accepted enthusiastically. In attachment, please find the list of the above-mentioned Committees together with a very preliminary form of the program. I will be pleased if you can look at these two files (International Organizing - Scientific Committee and Program) and give me your feedback and suggestions, by replying to Xuguangqi@icranet.org.

I take this occasion to send you my warmest personal regards,

Remo Ruffini
Professor Chair of Theoretical Physics" La Sapienza"
Director of ICRANet.