

## Introductory Remarks

The summer of 2008 was a densely packed season with a number of excellent asteroseismological conferences. CoAst will publish the proceedings of the Wroclaw, Liege and Vienna (JENAM) meetings. In fact, the proceedings of the HELAS Wroclaw conference is mailed to you together with this regular issue. Accompanying these two issues is a user manual for the FAMIAS and DAS packages. The scientific mix of these three simultaneous issues represents the typical CoAst mixture. This also demonstrates the growth of CoAst. Besides this increase in special issues, the number of subscribers of the printed regular issue (free of charge for asteroseismologists presently publishing in the field) has exceeded the magical number of 500. I am especially pleased about our rapid expansion into the Americas.

These days, it is fashionable to judge scientific excellence through numbers. To some extent this is a futile undertaking: how do you judge quality? For scientific papers, the number of citations and the impact factor of the journal are important. Here too, CoAst evolved in a nice way showing a significant increase of the citations per paper. Which papers have been cited the most in previous CoAst issues? Not surprisingly, these were tools of our trade: the PERIOD04 and PERIOD98 handbooks. Therefore, we expect the manual for FAMIAS/DAS (Vol.155) to become highly quoted as well. But not only user manuals for software tools are cited heavily. Our papers on satellite missions have also been heavily read. In the present volume, you will find two papers on pioneering satellite observations. Nevertheless, ground-based asteroseismology is still well-represented.

The CoAst team is also growing and we welcome our latest member: Natalie Sas, who is our language editor supported by *HELAS*. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our contact persons at *ADS*, Carolyn Stern-Grant and Edwin Henneken as well as at *Simbad Database*, Francois Ochsenbein for the excellent collaboration and their support.

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Editor-in-Chief