

# IPS 2020 Virtual Conference Schedule

## Wednesday, August 5

- 6:00 – 6:15 AM (Universal Time): **Introduction and Breakout Sessions**
- 6:20 – 6:50 AM (Universal Time): **Multidisciplinary use of the Dome**  
Presenters Include: Joseph Eakin, Ahmad Khazaee and Dayna Thompson  
From drone data to 3d scanning, Colgate University brings in faculty from many disciplines to use the dome for research and teaching. Joining in the panel is Dayna Thompson from Ball State University and Ahmad Khazaee from Colgate University. This panel will discuss ways to bring faculty from all disciplines into the dome to create immersive co-curricular experiences for teaching and learning.
- 6:55 – 7:15 AM (Universal Time): **Better Staffing for Better Live Presentations**  
Panelists Include: Marc Horat, Nick Lake, Naomi Pequette and Angela Perez  
During this session panelists will share their experiences and advice about marketing, scheduling, presentation techniques for various grade levels, how to successfully run a program with an analog or a digital projector, program evaluation, unique presentation venues, and other topics you may request.
- 7:20 – 7:35 AM (Universal Time): **Digistar 7 First Look and more with new E&S+Spitz head Jeb Terry**  
Presented by: Jeb Terry, Kevin Scott, Scott Huggins, Estelle Pacalon, JT Towne, Michael McConville  
Hands-on with brand new Digistar 7 software features and a backstage look at E&S and Spitz developments
- 7:40 – 7:55 AM (Universal Time): **Accessible technologies and innovation for the planetarium environment**  
Presenters Include: Christelle Barclay, David Hurd and Mark Watson  
As planetarians, we are often given the opportunity to serve visitors with special needs. Those needs vary widely and although there is no “one size fits all” category for the visitors that come through our doors, there are some ways to make everyone feel welcome and help them enjoy the experience to the fullest extent possible. This paper will highlight some of the techniques, technology and interventions that 3 planetariums in France, England and United States have used to create least restrictive environments. To this end, our desire is to offer real life experiences and resources that we hope can be utilized in your facility. In addition, we hope to generate discussion regarding a repository for materials used by planetariums for visitors and employees with special needs.
- 8:00 – 8:10 AM (Universal Time): **Make a new style Astronomy Museum --Introduction of the upcoming Shanghai Planetarium**  
Presenter: Lin Qing  
Shanghai Planetarium, which will be one of the biggest planetariums in the world, has completed the wonderful architecture constructing, and will start the exhibition and decoration works very soon. Shanghai planetarium will open in 2021 and warmly welcome every planetarian in the world to visit us. We hope to have a chance using this proposal to introduce about the characteristic and our new designing idea of this new planetarium.
- 8:15 – 8:35 AM (Universal Time): **The How’s and Why’s of Storytelling in the Planetarium**  
**Panelists Include:** Buck Batson, Susan Batson, Francine Jackson and Tiffany Stone Wolbrecht

- 8:40 – 9:40 AM (Universal Time): **BREAK**
- 9:40 – 9:45 AM (Universal Time): **MegaStar: New technologies for planetariums.**  
Presented by: Takayuki Ohira, Alexander Adli
- 9:50 – 10:20 AM (Universal Time): **The Educational Value of the Planetarium: International**  
Presented by: Kaoru Kimura, Sally Macfarlane, Guillermo Federico Marranghello and Sharon Shanks  
This presentation session originally set out to gather global information about how planetariums are perceived by audiences in individual countries. To make it more meaningful during a time when many domes are still closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the focus has switched to planetariums making a difference in their countries, and how “The Educational Value of the Planetarium” is being applied.

The presenters are Kaoru Kimura, Otsuma Women’s University, in Tokyo, Japan, who looks at planetarium use in the schools; Sally Macfarlane, Iziko Planetarium and Digital Dome, in Cape Town, who notes the need for planetariums to help disseminate the growth of astronomy research in South Africa and the basics of STEM education; and Guilherme Marranghello, Planetário da Unipampa, who discusses the creation of a university in the extreme south of Brazil and its associated planetarium are affecting the education and economy of the region.

- 10:25 – 10:45 AM (Universal Time): **Planetaria in Africa**  
Presented by: Yinka Ajiboye, Daneil Chu Owen, Matthiam Hoffman and Susan Murabana Owen  
We recently formed African Planetarium Association and our session will focus on the various planetaria in Africa.
- 10:50 – 11:20 AM (Universal Time): **IAU and IPS: synergies, collaborations and shared goals**  
Presenters Include: Urban Eriksson, Lucia Marchetti and Susan Murabana  
The recently signed MoU between the IPS and the IAU (the International Astronomical Union) represents a great opportunity for collaborations and sharing of opportunities. This session aims to present the IAU to the wider IPS community and to foster a dialogue between these two international institutions in order to identify synergies and shared goals that could benefit of a more close collaboration.
- 11:25 – 11:30 AM (Universal Time): **Sky-Skan Collaborations**
- 11:35 – 11:45 AM (Universal Time): **Exhibitors can be also Producers – Resource Sharing of Digital Planetariums**  
Presented by: Chilong Lin  
In the past, planetariums with an OMNIMAX film projector can only exhibit movies or multimedia shows produced by professional studios. Making shows by themselves is too difficult to most planetarium staffs. Not to mention sharing their achievements with other planetariums. In the digital era, planetarium software enables the staffs to make their own shows with the build-in database and share their achievements with other planetariums using the same system. However, as the software is so powerful, we considered the possibility of cross-platform sharing of such resources and made some test of this idea. In this report, I will introduce the concept of making exhibitors also producers and demonstrate an example performed in our museum.
- 11:45 AM – 12:15 PM (Universal Time): **IPS General Meeting #2**

- 12:15 – 12:30 PM (Universal Time): **BREAK**
- 12:30 – 1:00 PM (Universal Time): **Enabling Scientific Research in the Planetarium**  
Presenters Include: Carter Emmart, Jacqueline Faherty, Tom Jarrett, Mark SubbaRao and Anders Ynnerman  
We believe that the planetarium holds tremendous potential to advance scientific research. It can serve as a collaborative and immersive visualization environment for data exploration and discovery. However, for that vision to be realized need to make progress in several areas including interoperability with scientific software packages, tools for the interaction with and interrogation of data, and better methods for synchronizing content between domes as well as between research data centers and domes.
- 1:05 – 1:10 PM (Universal Time): **ASTERION – the new ZEISS Starball for Hybrid Planetariums**  
There is no longer a reason to do without a brilliant starry sky
- 1:15 – 1:35 PM (Universal Time): **Space Operas, Art Exhibits, and Performances - Transforming the Dome into an Interactive Performance Space**  
Panelists Include: Paul Catanese, Joseph Eakin, Carter Emmart, Mike George and Anne-Lize Kochuyt  
Panel on the expansion of theater performances, art exhibits, and music productions for the dome.
- 1:40 – 2:10 PM (Universal Time): **A Planetarian’s Role in the Culture of Inclusion**  
Panelists include: Danielle LeBlanc, Shannon Schmoll, Dayna Thompson, Ryan Wyatt, and members of the IPSEDI Committee  
This panel session explores strategies for bringing awareness and understanding to issues around diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Planetarium field.
- 2:15 – 2:25 PM (Universal Time): **The Naval Hill Planetarium as a case study of fund raising and public relations challenges in a developing country**  
Presenters Include: Matthiam Hoffman and Patricia Lamusse  
We discuss the fundraising and public relations challenges to the University of the Free State in establishing and operating the first digital planetarium in Southern Africa. Because of its location in a rural central region of central South Africa, a developing country, the context is complex. We share lessons learned about running a capital campaign simultaneously with ongoing fundraising for operations. Since the project was made possible through extensive collaborations between organisations, we have to balance often-competing interests.
- 2:30 – 2:35 PM (Universal Time): **Creative challenges with GOTO’s new shows**  
Presented by: Yuka Sato and Kazumi Tsubakitani  
We will introduce some challenges we faced in a process of producing our latest shows “Night of Falling Stars” and “Horizon.”
- 2:40 – 3:00 PM (Universal Time): **Are Planetariums Still Relevant?**  
Presented by David Dundee, Benjamin Mendelsohn and Philip Groce  
Each panelist brings a different perspective to this question.  
David Dundee’s facility reopened in late June and is in the middle of presenting programs during an on-going pandemic.  
Benjamin Mendelsohn was scheduled to open a brand new, state-of-the-art planetarium when California canceled all such gatherings. He still has not had his grand-opening celebration.

Philip Groce, a design consultant on several newly planned planetariums, gives reasons to say “yes” in spite of the severe economic impact of the pandemic.