

The Extreme Solar System III conference was a great success. More than 330 scientists from all levels of career and from all over the world, came to Kona, Hawaii to participate in the third of this most popular conference series. Although our conference was held only 4 months after the IAU General Assembly in Honolulu, many attendees made the expensive trip once more and returned to Hawaii for a second time.

Over 330 participants registered for the conference. We did not collect statistics on their gender as this is illegal. However, purely based on their first names, I was able to identify over 110 female participants. I am sure the actual number is more than that.

We had about 190 participants from the US, 15 of them from Hawaii (that includes all exoplanet researchers working in Hawaii at that time). The Hawaiian participants contributed to the organization of the conference as well. The LOC, headed by me, was from University of Hawaii, and three of our graduate students volunteered to help AAS with checking in participants, serving as guides at the poster sessions, etc.

It is hard to determine the number of senior vs junior participants, primarily because there is no universal definition for what a senior scientist is. However, the SOC ensured that junior scientists, especially female researchers received a good amount of face time. Quite number of talks were given by senior graduate students and recent postdocs.

As part of the NAI supported program, we organized a public talk known as a Frontiers Talk, on extrasolar planets on our Manoa campus. Paul Kalas (Berkeley), Josh Winn (at that time from MIT), Andrew Howard and myself from Hawaii, each gave 15 minute talks on different topics related to extrasolar planets. The event was held on the Wednesday night of the conference week at the University of Hawaii Art Auditorium which became full to the capacity.

The travel support from NAI was announced to all US participants several weeks in advance. We received 20 applications among whom we were able to fund 17 (4 female). The 3 who were not funded were disqualified based on technicality (e.g., US citizen working in non-US based institutions, etc.). We provided support to 4 graduate students, 7 postdocs and 6 faculty.

NAI has had significant contributions to the Extreme Solar System conference series. The next Extreme Solar System conference (ESS IV) will be held in July 2019 in Reykjavik, Iceland. Given the popularity of this conference series and the success of the NAI supported programs, we are planning for similar activities and have no doubt that they will be equally as successful. We would therefore very much appreciate NAI's continuing support.