



2026 INTERNATIONAL IAU-ORAS PRO-AM WORKSHOP



Building relationships and research collaborations between professional and amateur astronomers



October 5th - 8th 2026



Oil Region, NW Pennsylvania, USA



<https://oras.org/iau-2026-pro-am-workshop/>

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE



MONDAY
5 October

● Camp Coffman Main ● Jones Building ● Outdoor Classroom ● Bedow Observatory ● Observing Field

12:00 – 5:00 PM

Welcome, Check-In, On-Site Registration & Informal Networking

5:00 – 6:00 PM

Welcome Reception & Meet & Greet

6:00 – 7:00 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

KEYNOTE

Exploring the Universe of Professional
Astronomy Data in the Infrared
– *Luisa Rebull*

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Welcome Dinner / Networking

After 8:00 PM

BEDOW OBSERVATORY

Optional Observatory Orientation
Tour, weather permitting

OBSERVING FIELD

Dark-Sky Stargazing, Guided
Observing & Experience Sharing
weather permitting



**McELHATTAN
FOUNDATION**

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

Scan the QR Code, or visit:

<https://oras.org/iau-2026-pro-am-workshop/>



Camp Coffman Main

Jones Building

Outdoor Classroom

Bedow Observatory

Observing Field

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Breakfast & Networking: New Connections, New Ideas

9:00 – 10:00 AM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

Finding Our Place in the Cosmos Together
— Rachel Freed

10:00 – 10:45 AM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

Synet 2.0 - The Future of
Global Observing
— Josh Haislip

JONES BUILDING

VIRTUAL

Filters at Fast Focal Ratios:
Choosing Narrowband Filters for
Modern High-Speed Systems
— Chris Karp

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

French Pro-Am Program /
RAPAS — Thierry Midavaine

10:45 – 11:00 AM

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

HD 5501: A Rapidly Evolving
Eclipsing Binary - A Pro-Am
Collaboration - Jack Martin

11:00 – 11:30 AM

Break / Networking

11:30 – 12:30 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

From Backyard Telescopes to
Frontline Science
— Brian Kloppenborg

JONES BUILDING

Using your imaging rig to work
with international planetary and
occultation research campaigns
—Roxanne Kamin

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

An introduction to Gemini ProAm
french program developed in a
partnership between SF2A and
SAF — Thierry Midavaine

12:30 – 1:00 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

VIRTUAL

A Brief History of Pro-Am
Collaborations
— Diana Hannikainen

JONES BUILDING

Combating Light Pollution: Edu-
cating the Police
— Debbie Moran

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

Homeless - The Gibeon
Meteorite Story
— Francis Bryan

1:00 – 1:30 PM

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

Astro-COLIBRI
— Fabian Schussler

1:30 – 2:30 PM

Networking Lunch: Conversations & Collaboration

2:30 – 4:00 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

WORKSHOP

Infrared Astronomy Workshop
— Luisa Rebull

JONES BUILDING

Turning Images Into Insight -
Exploring Afterglow Access
— Josh Haislip

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

A comparative analysis of the
homemade EKAR muon detector
and the OULU neutron monitor
— Marco Parisi

4:00 – 4:45 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

VIRTUAL

2SPOT: A 100% Automated Spectroscopic
Observation System in Chile and France
— Stéphane Charbonnel, Pascal Le Dû,
Olivier Garde, Lionel Mulato, and Thomas
Petit

JONES BUILDING

VIRTUAL

Discovering near earth
objects and comets as
amateurs in 2026
— Alain Maury

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

VIRTUAL

Satellite Spotting with
Orbitrack
— Tim DeBenedictis

5:00 – 6:00 PM

CAMP COFFMAN MAIN

Developing a scalable model for research, education and
public engagement through community observatories
— Isa Mohammed

6:00 – 7:00 PM

Dinner: Celebrating Ideas, People & Partnerships

After 7:00 PM

BEDOW OBSERVATORY

Optional Observatory Orientation
Tour, weather permitting

OBSERVING FIELD

Dark-Sky Stargazing, Guided
Observing & Experience Sharing
weather permitting

Camp Coffman Main

Jones Building

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Bedow Observatory

Observing Field

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Breakfast & Networking: New Connections, New Ideas

9:00 – 10:00 AM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN From Access to Contribution – Emma Cain Louden	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Amateurs First or Professionals First? – Mohammad Javad Torabi	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM VIRTUAL When Does a Transient Disk Form? Comparison of Wind-Fed and RLOF Accretion in Eccentric Binaries – Rohit Kumar
10:00 – 10:30 AM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN Prospects for Pro-Am Collaborations / Asteroids 2029 – Damya Souami	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL From Aurora Hunting to Astronomy Education and Science Communication – Exodus Chun-Long Sit	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM VIRTUAL Cal Maciarol Module 8. The first non-professional remote observatory in Spain – Jose-Luis Salto-Gonzalez
10:30 – 11:00 AM		JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Pursuing the Aurora – Exodus Chun-Long Sit	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM Observing the Anomalous: A Pro-Am Framework for UAP data – Gretchen Stahlman

11:00 – 11:30 AM

Break / Networking

11:30 – 12:00 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN Europlanet Engagement with the Amateur Astronomy Community – Edita Stonkute	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Listening to UCAC4 459-092739 – Carlos Morales Socorro	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM VIRTUAL IAU Commission C5 Cultural Astronomy – Steven Gullberg (Virtual)
12:00 – 12:30 PM			OUTDOOR CLASSROOM Bridging Communities in Astronomy: Sustainable Pro-Am Collaborations in Africa – Olayinka Fagbemi
12:30 – 1:30 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN The CfA2 Great Wall of Galaxies Visually Observed – Butch Phaneuf	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Observational characterization of artificial satellites to reduce their impacts on astronomy and the night sky – John Barentine	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM VIRTUAL 17 Years of Pro-Am Collaboration on Jupiter Impact Monitoring and Observations – Marc Delcroix

1:30 – 2:30 PM

Networking Lunch: Conversations & Collaboration

2:30 – 4:00 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN The Future of the ALPO – Tim Robertson	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Recording Horizon Data & Calculating Horizon Interactions – Karen Knierman & Ric Alling	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM The Globular Cluster Visual Catalog – Aldo Zanetti
4:00 – 6:00 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN HYBRID AAS Campus SHINE Initiative – Diane Turnshek, Vayujeet Gokhale, Michelle Wooten and James Lowenthal	JONES BUILDING WORKSHOP Influence of Solar Wind Plasma Parameters and CMEs on Galactic Cosmic Ray Modulation – Ramdas D. Mars	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM VIRTUAL Astronomy with a Human Face – Camilo Delgado-Correal
5:00 – 5:30 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN How amateurs can contribute to projects with normally inclement weather – Dean Miskovich	JONES BUILDING VIRTUAL Amateur Spectroscopy in the Pro-Am Era: Tools, Databases, and Real Results – Tom Field	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM Design and development of Mauritius Small Array – Albert Forson
5:30 – 6:00 PM	CAMP COFFMAN MAIN Influence of Galactic Cosmic Ray Intensity Variations on Solar Wind Plasma Parameters During Solar Cycle 24 – Ramdas D. Mars		OUTDOOR CLASSROOM Unlocking the Untapped Potential of the Professional–Amateur Community in the Era of Big Data –Abbas Mokhtarzadeh

6:00 – 7:00 PM

Pro-Am Astronomy Closing Dinner

After 7:00 PM	BEDOW OBSERVATORY Optional Observatory Orientation Tour, weather permitting	OBSERVING FIELD Dark-Sky Stargazing, Guided Observing & Experience Sharing weather permitting
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