

V-248 Visit dr. Hans Zinnecker, SOFIA Science Center at NASA, USA

Dr. Hans Zinnecker, just retired as the deputy director of the SOFIA Science Center at NASA Ames in California, visited the Anton Pannekoek Instituut from June 1st to July 22nd 2017. He discussed with the PhD students and postdocs in our research group (led by Kaper, De Koter and De Mink) and contributed to their scientific projects.

Hans' expertise is on the formation and evolution of massive stars, and he has always advocated the important role that (massive) binaries may play. In particular, Hans contributed to the research project of Maria Ramirez Tannus (the outcome of massive star formation, the absence of close binaries in the young star forming region M17) and Difeng Guo (OB associations in the Gaia era). He participated to the several scientific meetings: on star formation (Florence 5 - 9 June, in honor of Francesco Palla who passed away last year), the EWASS meeting in Praag (25 - 30 June, together with Difeng Guo) and the ESO workshop on binaries (2 - 7 June, with Maria Ramirez Tannus).

Dr. Zinnecker presented a colloquium on 18 juli 2017 entitled "Airborne Infrared Astronomy with SOFIA". He assisted with the preparation of SOFIA proposals. Several colleagues from neighbouring institutes visited us during the sabbatical (a.o. dr. Anthony Brown (UL), prof. Hugues Sana (KU Leuven)).

Thanks to the interactive and social character of Hans, and his creative thoughts, we look back on a very interesting and fruitful visit.