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Simon Marius Gesellschaft

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Simon Marius and Astronomy in Franconia Nuremberg/Bamberg 20-22 September 2014

Marius-Portal

www.simon-marius.net

Two conferences on the history of astronomy of Southern Germany bring an end to the Simon-Marius-Anniversary celebrations 2014 in honour of Simon Marius, the Ansbach Court Astronomer.

Marius discovered the Moons of Jupiter at the same time as and independently of Galileo but was accused of plagiarism by the latter. It was an open question for a long time whether he had simply plagiarised Galileo or not, who without doubt was the first to publish. However, Marius has been redeemed since the beginning of the twentieth century but remains underrated by the experts although his work was at the highest European levels.

The conference duet "Simon Marius and Astronomy in Franconia" begins with "Simon Marius and his Times" in the Nicolaus-Copernicus-Planetarium in Nuremberg on 20 September. Marius' use of the telescope, his observations of the Jupiter satellites, sunspots and comets, his translation of Euclid, his calendars and his contributions to the question of which astronomical system was correct form the focus of the lectures, which are pitched for general understanding.

See for more information: www.simon-marius.net/tagung.php.

This is followed by the conference "Astronomy in Franconia – From the Beginnings to Modern Astrophysics" at the Remeis-Observatory in Bamberg on 22 September 2014. Both conferences are being presented in co-operation with the Working Group on the History of Astronomy of the German Astronomical Society (AG). The annual general meeting of the AG is also taking place in Bamberg: "The variable sky: From tiny variations to big explosions".

The double history of astronomy conference is the third and final highpoint of the Simon-Marius-Anniversary-Celebrations. In February the Marius-Portal www.simon-marius.net, was launched which will make all the documents by or about Simon Marius generally available. Hindi was recently added as the 28th menu language. The naming of an asteroid after Marius by the International Astronomical Union attracted much public attention.

Program for the Marius-Conference: www.simon-marius.net/tagung.php

Press Area: <http://www.simon-marius.net/index.php?lang=en&menu=13>