

## FOREWORD

When we organized the first International Workshop on Planetary Radio Emissions in the summer of 1984, following the 25th COSPAR meeting held at Graz, we hardly expected this workshop to become somewhat of a tradition. The enthusiastic acceptance by the relatively small but highly active community led us to hold the second one in September 1987 and the third workshop in 1991. The intimate size of the workshop with enough time for discussions and social get-togethers formed a close bond among the members of this community over the years.

There has been a continuing growth in subjects discussed at these workshops. Whereas the first one concentrated on the first radio planet, Jupiter, it also dealt with Earth and initial results of Saturn. By the second and third workshop Uranus and Neptune had joined the radio planets in our solar system as the results of the Voyager 2 fly-by of these planets. The most recent fourth workshop held in September 1996 expanded the themes concerned with all five radio planets by adding new results from the Galileo und Ulysses missions.

The proceedings of these workshops appeared in bookform under the title *Planetary Radio Emissions*; the present one is the fourth volume (*PRE IV*) appearing in the “Silver Series” of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Press. Like the previous three volumes the present one is also expected to become a “standard” in this discipline, containing the most-up-to-date state of knowledge in theory and observation of planetary radio emissions.

We hope that this volume, as the previous ones, will become the compendium in this field until new observations and ideas might urge us to convene another Graz-Workshop.

THE EDITORS

H.O. RUCKER

S.J. BAUER

A. LECACHEUX