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Preface

This issue of *Astronomical and Astrophysical Transactions* comprises the papers presented at the tenth annual conference on Modern Stellar Astronomy, held in Special Astrophysical Observatory of the Russian Academy of Sciences in October 2019. The "Modern Stellar Astronomy" conferences provide a forum for Russian scientists and scientists from the former Soviet Union concerned with stellar astronomy and related topics. The program consisted of invited talks, contributed oral talks, and poster papers. There were about 110 registered participants at the meeting. The program of the 2019 conference included 84 oral and 26 poster presentations. The key topics for the conference were Binary stars, Variable stars, Stellar clusters, Star formation, Exoplanets, Structure, kinematics and dynamics of the Milky Way Galaxy, Other galaxies. This volume comprises eleven of the papers that were presented at the conference.

The proceedings of the stellar-astronomy conference presented here reflect the above key topics well enough. Along with continuing traditions of the Moscow and St. Petersburg stellar-astronomy schools (studies on the structure and kinematics of the Milky Way, extinction of light, stellar dynamics and stability of stellar systems, problem of a universal distance scale, systematic study of variable stars as indicators of different types of galactic stellar populations, studies of open and globular star clusters and determinations of their characteristics), we see signatures of promising modern research directions: modeling the global dynamics of galaxies, large-scale discoveries and studies of new star clusters, space research, etc. Quite a number of interesting presentations came from the Ural Federal University (Yekaterinburg), Special Astrophysical Observatory, Pulkovo Observatory, Institute of Astronomy (Moscow), Kazan Federal University, Astro Space Centre (Moscow), Chelyabinsk State University, Institute of Space Research (Moscow), South Federal University (Rostov-on-Don), Crimean Astrophysical Observatory, National University of Uzbekistan, Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory (Armenia), Fesenkov Astrophysical Institute (Kazakhstan), Ariel University (Israel) and other astronomical centers. In general, this conference which was devoted to the present state of stellar astronomy was very useful, and it will stimulate further research in this important field of astronomy.

The conference "Modern Stellar Astronomy-2019" was supported by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation and the Special Astrophysical Observatory of the Russian Academy of Science. The conference was organized by the Special Astrophysical Observatory of the Russian Academy of Science, the Sternberg Astronomical Institute of the Moscow State University, the Institute of Astronomy, and the Eurasian Astronomical Society. We are very grateful to these institutions for their generous support. Also, the conference could not succeed without the effort and dedication of a large number of people; we are indebted to them all, including POC and LOC members. We sincerely thank the chairpersons of the

sessions and also the referees of the papers for their efforts and contribution to the conference.

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