



Observational Programs

Round 3: NOAO Survey Proposals Due March 15

Todd Boroson

Two years ago NOAO initiated the first annual call for Survey Proposals for large programs to be carried out at its CTIO and KPNO facilities. Such programs allow the identification of complete, well-defined samples of objects that can both yield conclusions based on statistical analysis of the survey data itself and also provide important subsets for more detailed observations with larger telescopes. In the first two rounds, 38 Survey Proposals were received and ten were accepted. Proposals for the third round of the NOAO Survey Program are due 15 March 2001, with a letter of intent to be received by 31 January 2001.

The accepted programs are:

- *Deep Imaging Survey of Nearby Star-Forming Clouds* (PI Bally, Colorado)
- *ChaMPlane: Measuring the Faint X-ray Binary and Stellar X-ray Content of the Galaxy* (PI Grindlay, CfA)
- *In Search of Nearby Stars: A Parallax Program at CTIO* (PI Henry, JHU)
- *A Fundamental Plane Peculiar Velocity Survey of Rich Clusters within 200 h^{-1} Mpc* (PI Hudson, Waterloo)
- *The NOAO Deep Wide-Field Survey* (PIs Jannuzi and Dey, NOAO)
- *Toward a Complete Near-Infrared Spectroscopic and Imaging Survey of Giant Molecular Clouds* (PI Lada, Florida)
- *The Resolved Stellar Content of Local Group Galaxies Currently Forming Stars* (PI Massey, Lowell Obs.)
- *Star Formation in HI Selected Galaxies* (PI Meurer, JHU)
- *Southern Standard Stars for the u'g'r'i'z' System* (PIs Smith, Michigan, and Tucker, FNAL)
- *Deep Lens Survey* (PIs Tyson and Wittman, Lucent, and Dell'Antonio, NOAO)

Further details concerning these approved Survey Programs, including telescopes used and links to individual project Web sites, can be found on the NOAO Web site at <http://www.noao.edu/gateway/surveys/programs.html>.

Proposals for the third round of the NOAO Survey Program are due 15 March 2001. Investigators interested in applying for time under the Survey Program *must* submit by 31 January 2001 a letter of intent to propose a survey program (by e-mail to surveys@noao.edu). The letter of intent must describe the broad scientific goals of the program, the membership of the survey team, the telescopes and instruments to be requested, the approximate amount of time that will be requested, and the

duration of the proposed survey. Up to 20% of the total telescope time at CTIO and KPNO may be awarded through the Survey Program, including that allocated in the first two rounds.

A more detailed description of the Survey Program requirements and guidelines is available at <http://www.noao.edu/gateway/surveys/>. Proposals must be initiated using the NOAO Web proposal form (<http://www.noao.edu/noaoprop/noaoprop.html>), which will be available approximately 15 February 2001.



Looking Ahead to 2001B

Todd Boroson

The spring proposal round for observations in Semester 2001B (August 1, 2001 – January 31, 2002) will be here soon, with the usual due date of 31 March 2001 (15 March 2001 for survey programs, 31 January 2001 for survey letters of intent). Proposal materials should be available around February 15 at <http://www.noao.edu/noaoprop/>.

Possibly included in the 2001B round would be the first opportunity for observations with Gemini South. If a “Call for Proposals” occurs, information should be available on NOAO’s Gemini gateway page (<http://www.noao.edu/gateway/gemini>) in early March. While the instrumentation to be available during the first semester of operations at Gemini South is still under discussion, the instrument list is likely to include FLAMINGOS, OSCIR, and PHOENIX. At Gemini North NIRI, GMOS, and Hokupa’a are expected to be available.

Observing time at the Hobby-Eberly telescope and on the 6.5-m telescope of the MMT Observatory is also expected to be available through the NSF’s Public Access Program for new programs in 2001B.

NOAO Facilities Popular with SIRTf Legacy Investigators

Caty Pilachowski

The SIRTf Science Center, in collaboration with NOAO, offered SIRTf Legacy Program investigators the opportunity to apply for observing time on NOAO facilities as part of their Legacy science proposals. More than half of the SIRTf Legacy proposers did just that, requesting NOAO observing time to enhance the scientific value of their proposed SIRTf observations. Once the SIRTf Legacy TAC has met, approved programs will be reviewed by NOAO, and then, if possible, scheduled during 2001 and 2002. Up to 10% of telescope time on facilities at CTIO and KPNO is available to approved SIRTf Legacy programs.

Proposal Update for 2001A

Caty Pilachowski

NOAO received 345 observing proposals for telescope time during the 2001A semester, plus an additional 15 proposals on behalf of the Chilean National TAC for time at CTIO. Fifty-eight percent of proposals were submitted using the NOAO Web form, with the remainder arriving by e-mail using the LaTeX template. Thesis proposals accounted for 25% of all proposals received, or 86 proposals. Of the proposals received, 163 requested time at Kitt Peak, 118 requested time at CTIO, 77 requested time at Gemini North, and 8 requested time at the Hobby-Eberly telescope. Thirteen proposals requested long-term status.

In addition to these new programs, an additional 17 programs continue into 2001A as long-term or survey programs at CTIO and KPNO.

Some HET and MMT programs are also being carried forward because of slow starts at both of those new facilities.

As of this writing, the proposals are in the hands of the NOAO TAC. The results of their deliberations for the KPNO, CTIO, and HET requests should be announced by e-mail to investigators in early December, followed by formal letters in mid-December. Notification to Gemini investigators must await final approval of the Gemini Director. Investigators who requested time on Gemini should hear the outcome by e-mail in mid-December, with formal letters following a week or so after that.



2001A Observing Requests Statistics

February 2001–July 2001

CTIO Telescopes	4-m	1.5-m	YALO	0.9-m	SCHM
No. of requests	96	41	11	19	6
No. of nights requested	302	185	39.5	127	50
Nights available	140	150	23	160	80
Nights previously committed	12	33	0.46	31	0
Nights available for new programs	128	117	22.5	129	80
Oversubscription	2.35	1.58	1.76	0.98	0.63
Average request	3.15	4.51	3.59	6.68	8.33

KPNO Telescopes	4-m	WIYN	2.1-m
No. of requests	108	38	55
No. of nights requested	334.3	92.8	265.2
Nights available	145	60	160
Nights previously committed	26	13	51
Nights available for new programs	119	47	109
Oversubscription	2.81	1.97	2.43
Average request	3.10	2.90	4.82

Other Telescopes	GEM-N	HET
No. of requests	77	7
No. of nights requested	122	9.75
Nights available	34	5
Nights previously committed	0	3
Nights available for new programs	34	2
Oversubscription	3.59	4.88
Average request	1.58	1.39