

# OBSERVATIONAL PROGRAMS

NATIONAL OPTICAL ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

## NOAO Survey Program Letters of Intent Due January 31

*Todd Boroson*

There have been no new starts in the NOAO Survey Program in the last two years, as we have given the active surveys a chance to complete their observations. While a few surveys will still be observing in 2005, we expect to take proposals for new surveys in the 2005B cycle. This decision is contingent on the success of a review of the Survey Program that the AURA Observatories Council will be holding in January 2005. However, because of the lead time in soliciting letters of intent and proposals, we are planning to accept letters of intent and to inform letter writers if the review results in changes or further delays in the program. Full proposals will be due 15 March 2005.

Surveys are aimed at identification and study of complete, well-defined samples of objects that can yield both conclusions based on analysis of the survey data itself, and also provide important subsets for more detailed observations with larger telescopes. All survey teams are expected to work with the NOAO Science Archive project to ensure effective, timely community access to the survey data.

Investigators interested in applying for time under the NOAO Survey Program MUST submit a letter of intent by 31 January 2005 (by e-mail to [surveys@noao.edu](mailto:surveys@noao.edu)) describing 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 percent of the total telescope time at CTIO and KPNO may be awarded through the Survey Program, including time allocated in the earlier rounds to continuing programs. We are exploring the possibility of allowing surveys to begin on the Gemini telescopes; watch the Web site given below for an update on this.

A more detailed description of the Survey Program requirements and guidelines is available at [www.noao.edu/gateway/surveys/](http://www.noao.edu/gateway/surveys/). Proposals must be initiated using the NOAO Web proposal form at [www.noao.edu/noaoprop/noaoprop.html](http://www.noao.edu/noaoprop/noaoprop.html), which will be available approximately 15 February 2005.

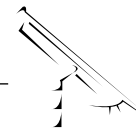
## 2005A Proposal Process Update

*Dave Bell*

NOAO received 497 observing proposals for telescope time during the 2005A observing semester. These included 217 proposals for Gemini, 135 for KPNO, 111 for CTIO, 34 for Keck, 10 for MMT, 8 for HET, and 2 for Magellan. Twenty-two of the Cerro Tololo proposals were processed on behalf of the Chilean National Time Allocation Committee (TAC), and 12 of the Kitt Peak proposals were processed on behalf of the University of Maryland TAC. Thesis projects accounted for 23 percent (112 proposals) of those received, and 15 proposals requested long-term status. Time-request statistics by telescope and instrument appear in the following tables. Subscription rate statistics will be published in the March 2005 issue of the *NOAO-NSO Newsletter*.

As of this writing, proposals are being reviewed by members of the NOAO TAC (see the following listing). We expect all telescope schedules to be completed by 7 December 2004, and plan to notify principal investigators of the status of their requests at that time. Mailed information packets will follow the e-mail notifications by about two weeks.

Looking ahead to 2005B, Web information and forms will be available on line in February 2005. The March 2005 issue of this *Newsletter* will contain updated instrument and proposal information.



## 2005A Instrument Request Statistics by Telescope

### KPNO

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>4-m</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>255.8</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3.5</b>
	ECH	10	10	40	2	5	4
	FLMN	16	16	54	0	0	3.4
	MARS	3	3	10	6	60	3.3
	MOSA	17	21	59	40	68	2.8
	RCSP	21	21	84	28	33	4
	SQIID	3	3	8.8	0	0	2.9
<b>WIYN 3.5-m</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2.8</b>
	DSPK	3	3	9	9	100	3
	HYDR	13	16	48.2	20	41	3
	MIMO	12	12	27.9	22.7	81	2.3
	SPSPK	1	1	5	5	100	5
	WTTM	2	2	4	4	100	2
<b>2.1-m</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>178.7</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5.3</b>
	CFIM	11	13	73.5	53	72	5.7
	FLMN	5	6	23	6	26	3.8
	GCAM	8	10	61	25	41	6.1
	SQIID	4	4	11.2	0	0	2.8
	VIS	1	1	10	0	0	10
<b>WIYN 0.9-m</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>4.7</b>
	MOSA	6	6	28	18	64	4.7



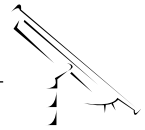
# Observational Programs

## CTIO

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>SOAR</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2.5</b>
	Goodman	4	5	14.3	8.3	58	2.9
	OSIRIS	4	4	7.8	0	0	2
	SOI	2	2	5	5	100	2.5
<b>4-m</b>		<b>63</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>231.7</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3.4</b>
	HYDRA	14	15	52	11	21	3.5
	ISPI	20	21	61.7	2.5	4	2.9
	MOSAIC	16	17	68	45	66	4
	RCSP	13	14	46	18	39	3.3
	VIS	1	1	4	0	0	4
<b>1.5-m</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3.6</b>
	CSPEC	4	5	18	2	11	3.6
<b>1.3-m</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3.8</b>
	ANDI	13	13	48.9	6.5	13	3.8
<b>1.0-m</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8.5</b>
	CFIM	8	9	76.6	21.5	28	8.5
<b>0.9-m</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>118.5</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6.6</b>
	CFIM	14	18	118.5	29.5	25	6.6

## GEMINI

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>Gemini North</b>		<b>120</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>248.4</b>	<b>101.5</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1.7</b>
	GMOSN	60	73	135.3	89.8	66	1.9
	Michelle	22	22	31.6	4.4	14	1.4
	NIRI	47	55	81.5	7.3	9	1.5
Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>Gemini South</b>		<b>114</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>226.4</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1.7</b>
	AcqCam	1	1	0.3	0	0	0.3
	GMOSS	34	41	55.7	28.3	51	1.4
	GNIRS	39	44	59.5	1	2	1.4
	Phoenix	24	24	75.5	0	0	3.1
	TReCS	23	27	35.5	3.7	10	1.3



## COMMUNITY ACCESS

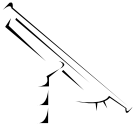
Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>Keck-I</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1.9</b>
	HIRES	7	7	11.5	2.5	22	1.6
	LRIS	9	9	18	17	94	2
	LWS	1	1	2	0	0	2

<b>Keck-II</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1.6</b>
	DEIMOS	6	6	10	10	100	1.7
	ESI	2	2	3	1	33	1.5
	NIRC2	2	2	2.5	1	40	1.2
	NIRSPAO	1	1	1	0	0	1
	NIRSPEC	9	9	15.5	0	0	1.7

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>MMT</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2.9</b>
	BCHAN	6	6	18	2	11	3
	Hectochelle	2	2	4	0	0	2
	Hectospec	1	1	4	4	100	4
	MegaCam	1	1	3	3	100	3

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>Magellan-I</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.5</b>
	IMACS	1	1	1	0	0	1
	PANIC	1	1	4	0	0	4

Telescope	Instrument	Proposals	Runs	Total Nights	Dark Nights	% Dark	Avg. Nights/Run
<b>HET</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>
	HRS	4	5	10	0	0	2
	LRS	3	3	5.3	5.2	98	1.8
	MRS	1	1	2.8	0	0	2.8



## 2005A TAC Members

### Galactic (28–29 October 2004)

Margaret Hanson, Chair, University of Cincinnati  
Letizia Stanghellini, Chair, NOAO  
Sidney Wolff, Chair, NOAO

Lori Allen, SAO  
Suchitra Balachandran, University of Maryland  
Adam Burgasser, American Museum of Natural History  
Ray Jayawardhana, University of Toronto  
Jeremy King, Clemson University  
Davy Kirkpatrick, Caltech/IPAC  
Henry Lee, University of Minnesota  
Ken Mighell, NOAO  
John Monnier, University of Michigan  
Bart Pritzl, Macalester College  
Steve Ridgway, NOAO  
Verne Smith, NOAO  
Nicole van der Bliik, CTIO  
Kim Venn, Macalester College  
Lisa Young, New Mexico Tech

### Extragalactic (2–3 November 2004)

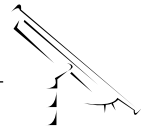
Dave De Young, Chair, NOAO  
Tod Lauer, Chair, NOAO  
John Mulchaey, Chair, Carnegie Observatories

Lee Armus, Spitzer Science Center  
Stephane Courteau, Queens University  
Romeel Davé, University of Arizona  
Roelof De Jong, STScI  
Ian Dell'Antonio, Brown University  
Arjun Dey, NOAO  
Megan Donohue, Michigan State University  
Harry Ferguson, STScI  
Anthony Gonzalez, University of Florida  
Brad Holden, Lick Observatory  
Mark Lacy, Spitzer Science Center  
Philip Pinto, University of Arizona  
Malcolm Smith, CTIO  
Adam Stanford, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory  
Lisa Storrie-Lombardi, Spitzer Science Center

### Solar System (1 November 2004)

Dave De Young, Chair, NOAO

Debra Fischer, San Francisco State University  
William Hubbard, University of Arizona, LPL  
Robert Millis, Lowell Observatory  
Susan Wyckoff, Arizona State University



## “CATCH”— A Web-Based Clearinghouse for Community Telescope Information and Access

*Katy Garmany & Todd Boroson*

Where can one find information on all available community telescopes and their instrumentation? This question has been raised by various panels recently, who have expressed their view that NOAO could most logically provide a Web site that summarizes and links all the diverse observing opportunities and set expectations for the future (see the O/IR System committee report at [www.noao.edu/meetings/system2/system2\\_report.pdf](http://www.noao.edu/meetings/system2/system2_report.pdf)). This challenge has been accepted by the System Project Office and is in the planning stage. We envision a Web site that includes all NOAO facilities, the TSIP program (which so far has made public observing time available on Keck, HET, MMT, Magellan, and LBT), and other telescopes giving public access through NOAO—WIYN, SOAR, and SMARTS.

Not only will this site list the observing facilities offered through the NOAO proposal process, but it will also include other community access telescopes and instrumentation. In particular, it will identify opportunities offered through PREST (Program for Research and Education with Small Telescopes), a new National Science Foundation initiative.

The PREST awards are for small (<2.5-meter) telescopes that offer both training and observing experiences, especially for graduate and undergraduate students. Four PREST awards were made in August (Michigan State, University of Toledo, University of North Carolina/CTIO, and Lowell/Boston University), and the next proposal opportunity will occur in January 2005.

The Web site will include time available, how and when to apply, instrument and detector capabilities, selection criteria, typical weather, lodging accommodations, and technical assistance or training available at the telescope. Also, feedback from observers on the performance of the facilities will be made available to potential proposers.

The most immediate need for this project is a snappy acronym—the best suggestion so far is CATCH (Community Access Telescope Clearinghouse). Send additional ideas to Katy Garmany ([garmany@noao.edu](mailto:garmany@noao.edu)) and win a prize!