Keck Participation in the TSIP Process

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TSIP Background

• NSF partially funds instrument development at Keck (e.g. OSIRIS; see Sean Adkins’ talk).
• In return, the national community gains access to the Keck telescopes.
• TSIP representatives participate in instrument reviews.
• NOAO handles the logistics of telescope proposals, time assignment, etc.
TSIP as a Win-Win Program

• TSIP benefits the general astronomical community by allowing them access to the largest optical/infrared telescopes on Earth.

• Keck benefits
  – better state-of-the-art instrumentation,
  – exposure to a wider cross-section of astronomers,
  – improved support for all observers.
TSIP Science

• All eight Keck instruments used, from optical to mid-IR.
• Projects range from spectroscopy of Europa, through gravity effects in brown dwarf spectra, all the way out to IGM enrichment at the end of the reionization era.
• Bad luck! Seven nights completely lost to weather, another six severely affected.
TSIP Observing at Keck

- Weather: 39%
- Science: 34%
- Overhead: 24%
- Fault: 3%
Quotable feedback

• “The sensitivity of the whole system was most impressive, allowing us to basically complete this part of our project in a single run.” —Drinkwater

• “Even with the poor weather, the data we did get was excellent, and the support/help we received (Wirth, et al.) great.” —Januzzi

• “Although imaging was not our primary objective, we were very impressed by the high quality of the images.” —Mastrapa