

NuSTAR Users Committee meeting - 2022-10-14

In Attendance: Daniel Stern, Fiona Harrison, Dan Wik, Karl Forster, Marco Ajello, Alina Kiessling, Andrea Marinucci, Anne Lohfink, Enrico Bozzo, Jack Steiner, Steph LaMassa

Agenda & Notes

NuSTAR status / updates

- laser issue largely mitigated
- large amount of debris in LEO, some recently came within <2km of NuSTAR (that's its positional uncertainty)
 - debris is majority, Starlink satellites rising quickly
- oversubscription still good, bouncing b/t 3-4
 - NICER is now over 5 (for joint time)
- Results from the Senior Review, including funded over-guide plans
 - Tier 3, no ranking within (1 is flagships, 2 is midexes, 4 is new horizons [asked for uncompleted money to do science])
 - very positive comments, 170 papers per year
- adding staffing in MOC and SOC to support a higher fraction of ToO observations
 - try to get more 24-48hr turnaround time, mainly for GO ToOs, not DDT except in extreme circumstances (like with brightest ever GRB recently)

XRISM PV plans

- iterating on MOU w/XRISM
- Priority plan: XRISM team will submit AO9 proposals to NuSTAR
 - same procedure as done with IXPE, very successful for them
 - US PIs will have access to funding for these
- Backup plan: DDT requests
 - lower priority, best effort basis, no funding
- XRISM wanted 1 Ms guaranteed with NuSTAR, but we declined

NUC logistics and rotations

- 2 telecons per year, chair won't have to do scheduling, etc.
 - rotations, suggesting 50% change-out every other year, applications
- spring timeline for next request for applications

Inclusion plans in GO proposals [TBC; HQ/Hashima suggestion]

- for budget proposals presumably? Hashima not present to discuss

AOB

- Jack: updates on calibration
 - Karl: no, very stable
- me: asked about NuSTAR-based XMM calibration update, if anyone taking advantage
 - Enrico: XMM user group meeting in June, discussed with Felix, looked very good but were not being used on very bright sources, but faint and modest sources it was working well

Next telecon in about 6 months from now

- discuss latest AO round (stats, possibly results?)
- otherwise not much business, perhaps something on inclusion stuff?