

Minutes2021_01_20

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions (~5 min, Dan et al.)

Mission Update (~5 min, Karl/Brian/Fiona)

NuSTAR's policy on exclusive use periods

- Context of policy, reasons to reconsider (~5 min, Dan/Fiona)
- Discussion (~30 min, all)
- What should the policy be? Is it good as is or should changes be made?
- Agree on policy, reasons for supporting it.
- Designate someone to draft document on policy, if necessary?

Future Topics / Any other business brought by members (~10 min, all)

Attendance

Karl, Marco, Andrea Marinucci, Aarran Shaw, John Tomsick, Steph LaMassa, James Steiner, Raffaella Margutti, Anne Lofink, Fiona, Enrico Bozzo

Notes from meeting

Fiona's role in these meetings is as an observer, recommendations go to her and HQ

Karl mission update on laser metrology, calibration, and GO program

- trying to slow down decline of laser power
- has leveled off, should last until end of decade
- programs underway to continue operations if one laser fails (led by Andreas Zoglauer & Hannah Earnshaw)
- Calibration updates in 2020 - both on arXiv

- madsen 2020 (MLI corrections)
- Bachetti 2020 (clock correction file updates)
- Calibration 2021
 - Gain tracking, Be window/MLI layers
 - cross-calibration (3C273 & Crab), IACHEC
 - IXPE in-flight calibration planned, launch in ~Nov.
- ground stations had trouble w/covid19, using an ESA ground station
- Northrup Grumman spacecraft bus
 - should be fine, recommends checking out battery
- GO program status
 - 6 dual anonymous resulted in many new PIs
 - 1 Ms available in GO-7 due to increased demand for ToOs
 - oversubscription rate is increasing!

Exclusive Use Time Policy

- 1 year GO, 6mon on ToO, none on DDT ToOs
- Astrophysics uses HST as model in NASA
 - went to 6mon proprietary period, idea to boost publication rate, maximize science
 - Fiona asked to change NuSTAR time, she felt NUC better place to decide this
 - Pat Slane also asked modify Chandra policy
- inclusion could be hurt
- Raff - Chandra group, transient people felt differently than rest of CXO
- Steph - statistics for nustar publication times
 - task for next senior review, ask Brian to do this

- Jack - NICER has an opt-in request for proprietary time (6 mon)
 - having to wait for transient data for a student can be a big deal
- Aarran - no time for DDT obs.
- Marco - hurt students need a year
- Jack - flag transient science, make justify to make proprietary
- Joel - depends on caliber of student, so no prop. time will hurt them more
- Enrico - GRB community not happy with data going public immediately
 - make distinction b/t nustar and swift and xmm in terms of richness, higher S/N, interpretation of data can be quite complex
 - halving proprietary time can actually boost science by
- Raff - privilege could be exacerbated
- Jack - Dan Arielli organ donation opt-in/opt-out
 - people go with default when complex options presented
- Enrico - hesitate if TACs would use lack of prop. period in decisions