

Minutes of the UCOAC meeting  
SETI Institute, 6 May 2013

Attending: Sandra Faber (Interim UCO Director, UCSC), Aaron Barth (UCI, Chair), Mike Bolte (UCSC), Adam Burgasser (UCSD), Brian Siana (UCR), Garth Illingworth (UCSC), James Graham (UCB), Xavier Prochaska (UCSC), Connie Rockosi (UCSC), Graeme Smith (UCSC), Chris Fassnacht (UCD), Rebecca Bernstein (UCSC), Claire Max (UCSC), Don Gavel (UCSC), John Wareham (Lick), Maureen McLean (UCSC), Paula Towle (UCSC). By polycom: Crystal Martin (UCSB), Tommaso Treu (UCSB), Alice Shapley (UCLA), Andrea Ghez (UCLA).

**TMT News.** (Bolte) The master partnership agreement was finalized by the TMT board with signing by the scientific and financial authorities expected shortly thereafter. UC's share is currently ~12% although this may still change as the project progresses. Current partner commitments have reached the 90% level and the project is seeking additional partners to complete the remaining 10%.

The SAC is now initiating "Science Development Teams" that will include all partners, with the goal of spurring collaborations focused on science themes. The input from these teams will help to inform the operating model for time assignment and aid in planning future instrumentation priorities. The first meetings of the SDTs are scheduled for the July TMT science meeting in Waikoloa.

**Keck News** (Martin). Updates on instrumentation and infrastructure projects were presented, including KCWI, the near-IR tip-tilt system, segment repair work, TCS upgrades, studies for planning a DEIMOS upgrade (Rockosi), and NGAO. More information is presented in the SSC public minutes from the April SSC meeting, available on the Keck SSC web site. Securing funding for NGAO was viewed by UCOAC as an urgent priority and the UCOAC discussed upcoming NSF opportunities.

**Keck Archive discussion.** Prior to this meeting, the Keck Observatory Archive requested permission from UC to index titles and abstracts of UC Keck proposals in the NASA ADS system which would make them easily searchable and visible in publication searches by author name. This is already done for NASA and NOAO proposals. This change would not affect the availability of data in the archives in any way; data already become public after a proprietary period, so the only issue is whether titles and abstracts should be indexed in ADS after the end of the proprietary period. After discussion of various pros and cons, the UCOAC voted on the issue, and the majority of members present voted that Keck proposal titles and abstracts should not be indexed in ADS. However, suggestions were made for future changes, including an idea that proposal cover sheets could allow the proposer the choice to voluntarily opt in to ADS indexing of the abstract.

**ShaneAO** (Gavel). The ShaneAO project is funded through a combination of an NSF grant, a grant from the Moore foundation, and some additional UCO funding. Gavel gave a presentation

describing the technical capabilities of the ShaneAO system and the expected timeline for completion. The first light test for the AO system is expected in Fall 2013, the SHARCS camera first light is expected for Spring 2014, and the fiber laser capability is also expected for 2014. The UCOAC discussed ideas for a possible ShaneAO science workshop in order to build UC-wide interest in ShaneAO science and to plan an early science campaign. Detailed information about ShaneAO design and capabilities is now available on the Laboratory for Adaptive Optics web site ([lao.ucolick.org](http://lao.ucolick.org)).

**Lick News** (Prochaska). The Friends of Lick Observatory (FOLO) has over 200 members now and has raised \$30K. Some of these funds will be used to repaint the 36-inch refractor. The 2013 graduate training workshop will be held during October 24-28, and is fully funded by a generous donation from Virginia Trimble (UCI). The UCOAC discussed the staffing situation at Lick which faces severe difficulties due to the current budgetary situation.

The UCOAC discussed ideas to incentivize service by system-wide faculty. Questions discussed included whether UCO service should be an obligation expected of those being allocated UC telescope time, whether public releases of software or data products should be considered UCO service, whether service activities should be considered in some way by the TAC, and how a call for volunteers might be organized. No firm decisions were reached.

Much of the discussion during this meeting concerned the UCO budget, staffing at Lick Observatory and in the UCO shops, the future status of the UCO faculty positions, UCO input at upcoming meetings of the UCO Board, and other sensitive topics. Although these discussions did not take place during a designated executive session, they are not summarized in these public minutes due to the nature of these topics.

These minutes were prepared by UCOAC chair Aaron Barth.