

Proposed Principles for Access to Astrophysics Data, Projects and Facilities: Introduction

AAAC Meeting

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AAAC Recommendations

- 2013 AAAC report made these recommendations:

“The agencies should implement a flexible open skies policy that both affirms the ideal of open access and permits negotiation on access to federally-funded telescopes and data sets as required to establish a level of parity in access to foreign and non-federally-funded facilities and data sets.”

“Negotiations towards the coordination of projects or the development of partnerships should proceed on the basis of the principles of reciprocal participation and mutually agreed sharing of costs and responsibilities.”

Agency Response to Recommendations

- Agencies have been working on a coordinated response to these recommendations since June.
- Agencies have developed a two-page document as a starting point for AAAC consideration.
- Goal is for AAAC to produce/endorse a set of mutually agreed principles that can be used as guidelines for agencies in current and future projects.

Intent of Organizations

- From NASA Astrophysics Division, NSF Division of Astronomical Sciences, DOE Office of High Energy Physics
 - Apply principles to all large astrophysics projects and facilities funded by these organizations
 - Apply principles to international collaborations, interagency collaborations, and partnerships with other public and private entities
 - Assess all proposed large astrophysics projects and facilities against these principles before deciding to undertake them
 - Discuss these principles with our partners in current and future large astrophysics partnerships and facilities
- If agencies deviate significantly from these principles, reason for deviation should be articulated explicitly

Five Principles

- Global Coordination to Optimize Use of Constrained Resources
 - Use resources effectively, efficiently, and without unnecessary duplication
- Open Data
 - Accessibility of data in a scientifically useful form; may include period of limited access
- Open Access
 - Merit-based process, with opportunity for some preferred access to contributors
- Opportunity to Contribute
 - Openly advertised criteria for collaboration membership
- Reciprocity
 - Those desiring access to resources should offer similar access to their own resources