

Decadal Survey Planning

Yes, it's time to start this again!

Marcia Rieke & Steve Ritz
CAA Co-Chairs

CAA Roles

- CAA reports to NAS Board on Physics and Astronomy (BPA) and Space Studies Board (SSB).
- CAA is not the Decadal Survey committee, and it does not set policy for the Survey. It does help the NAS and the Agencies think through relevant issues as they generate the statement of task, stimulate and gather community inputs in advance of the Survey, and pave the way into the Survey.
 - Taking into account lessons learned from previous surveys and inputs from Mid-decadal Report (Hewitt et al) and the Survey of Surveys Report (Dressler et al).

Most recent meeting:
Oct 31 – Nov 1

http://sites.nationalacademies.org/BPA/BPA_048755#pastpresentations

CAA Members in 2016

Marcia J. Rieke (NAS), Co-Chair, University of Arizona
Steven M. Ritz, Co-Chair, UC Santa Cruz
Jeremiah K. Darling, University of Colorado, Boulder
Megan Donahue, Michigan State University
Thomas Greene, NASA Ames Research Center
Lee W. Hartmann, University of Michigan
Vassiliki Kalogera, Northwestern University
Lisa Kaltenegger, Cornell University

Bruce Macintosh, Stanford University
Christopher F. McKee (NAS), UC Berkeley
Rene A. Ong, University of California, Los Angeles
Mark M. Phillips, Carnegie Institution for Science
James M. Stone, Princeton University
Alexey Vikhlinin, Harvard-Smithsonian CfA
Eric M. Wilcots, University of Wisconsin, Madison
A. Thomas Young (NAE), Lockheed Martin (Ret.)

Current Timeline Overview

- Jan 2017 AAS Town Hall
- Jan-Mar 2017 Consultation Group* telecon #1
- Mar 2017 CAA Space Science Week meeting (DC)
- Oct 2017 CAA fall meeting
- January 2018 AAS Town Hall
- February 2018 Study proposal submitted to NAS Governing Board Executive Committee (GBEC) for review and approval
- March 2018 Proposal submitted to agencies
- December 2018 Funding received from agencies, Chair nominated, and work begins
- January 2019 AAS Town Hall
- December 2020 Survey completed and report released to public

Updated timeline by agreement with NASA, NSF, and DOE.

* The Consultation Group is an ad hoc committee composed of members from previous Decadal Survey Committees, Space Studies Board, and Board on Physics and Astronomy

Preparations for Astro2020

- Continued discussions on **pre-survey activities**
 - Looking at how to gather data on the State of the Profession
 - APS Survey, AAS survey, other?
 - Discussing content and timing of science white paper solicitation
 - Lessons learned from other surveys
 - Valuable to complete the white papers prior to the start of the Survey, with papers due before selection of the Survey committee members. White paper authorship should not result in exclusion from Survey participation.
 - Starting work on draft call text, community input in various venues including 2018 AAS meeting.
 - Considering the CATE (Cost and Technical Evaluation) process and possible changes for Astro2020
 - CATE has evolved considerably since 2010 Survey
 - Help foster community understanding of the evaluation of project risk and its implications, as well as what information will be needed and how it will be used. Considering processes to ensure the desired accuracy and fairness of the CATE results.
 - Providing some specifics prior to the start of the Survey will help minimize misunderstandings and enable projects to prepare effectively and more uniformly.
 - NAS is planning to hold a meeting of experts across disciplines (not just Astronomy and Astrophysics) about CATE process this year.

What's Next?

- More pre-survey planning
 - Complete organization of the Consultation Group.
 - Additional community consultation events and processes, particularly for early-career colleagues.
 - Follow-up discussions about a possible state-of-the-profession study that is timely and useful in advance of the Survey.
- Working on a joint session with Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS) in March to hear about results from Dec 5-6 Workshop on Searching for Life Across Time and Space
- Also discussing interactions with APS:
 - Astrophysics (DAP), Particles and Fields (DPF), Nuclear Physics (DNP), and Gravity (DGRAV)

Structure, Scope, and Boundaries

- Initial discussions suggest that the scope and boundaries for NWNH/Astro2010 could be similarly optimal for Astro2020. Some items to (re)consider include:
 - Ground-based GW astronomy
 - Connections between exoplanets and astrobiology
 - Continued/increasing importance of the international context.
 - Philanthropic organization engagement
- Survey structure
 - Separate prioritization panel reports?
 - Consider timing of Chair selection

Main Purposes of this Town Hall

- Summarize current plans and to invite feedback:
 - Two categories of feedback and inputs:
 - A. additional lessons you care to share from Astro2010/NWNH
 - B. thoughts about the possible pre-survey activities, specifically:
 - White paper call
 - CATE discussions/workshops
 - State of the Profession
 - Outreach to younger colleagues
 - What else? All feedback welcome!