HST SENIOR REVIEW – 2016

- Review was held at ST ScI 8 – 10 March 2016

- This was an “incremental” review concentrating on any changes to the mission since the 2014 senior review.
  - HST is a long-lived mission with a robust and diverse scientific program that has a track record of accomplishment.
  - HST has a very effective method for obtaining community input in response to new scientific opportunities.
  - Thus, this review gave emphasis to understanding of any changes to spacecraft or ground system operations that have adversely impacted the ongoing scientific program.
  - The review also examined the HST Project’s evaluation of the most likely system failures and advance planning for responses to these.

- Report was transmitted to NASA on 5 April 2016.
HST Senior Review – 2016
Findings

- The Prioritized Mission Objectives (PMO’s) in the 2016 proposal are appropriate demonstrations of the scientific capabilities of HST, such a limited set cannot encompass the full scope of science of which HST is capable.
- There was excellent progress on a challenging set of PMO’s established at the time of the 2014 review.
- The scientific output of the observatory remains high.
- The overall efficiency of observatory operations, both in terms of observing efficiency and operational resources which was noted in 2014 has remained high.
- The project has proactively assessed risks to observatory operations and was preparing responses to the most likely of these.
- The overall stewardship of the observatory was assessed as excellent and there was promise of a number of year’s productive future operations.
- It is recommended that the purchasing power of the General Observer/Archival Resource grants program be maintained in order to optimize the scientific utilization of the data obtained.
- The findings of the 2014 Senior Review remained applicable to the HST mission in 2016.