PhysPAG Status

NAC APS Meeting
20 October 2011

S. Ritz

See
http://pcos.gsfc.nasa.gov/physpag.php

Includes email sign-up for news and announcements
Executive Committee

• Roger Brissenden (CfA)
• Shaul Hanany (Minnesota)
• Liz Hays (GSFC)
• Guido Mueller (UFL)
• Jason Rhodes (JPL)
• Steve Ritz (UCSC), chair

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• Most recent EC activities:
  – Ongoing SAG work
  – PCOS newsletter feedback
  – Planning for January F2F at AAS
Acronyms

- APS = Astrophysics Subcommittee of the NASA Advisory Committee (NAC) Science Committee
- APS = American Physical Society
Technology SAG Summary

- TechSAG focus has been on PCOS Technology Assessment; now complete (see status chart)

  - includes draft Assessment released for public comment and meeting notes

- Coordinated closely with the IPSAG in developing the Inflation Probe near-term and future technology requirements. Input to TechSAG fully consistent with the IPSAG technology development plan.

- Potential new tasks to be discussed at PhysPAG meeting to be held at January AAS
  - will bring proposals to APS
Technology SAG Summary

• PCOS Technology Assessment
  – Assessment intended for PCOS Program office for Program Annual Technology Report
  – Draft for Community comment placed on web July 27
  – Community input received by Aug 12 deadline; 14 inputs received.
  – Comments received on the technology roadmap (3), specific technology tables (6), and general comments (5)
  – TechSAG telcon held Aug 24 to discuss inputs and assign work
  – Updates made in response to Community input included adding:
    • Technology for a hard X-ray NuSTAR follow-on mission
    • Detectors for wide-field X-ray surveys
    • Alternative technology for X-ray timing science
    • 21 cm cosmology array (with overlap with COPAG science)
    • Future computation and processing needs to support the new technologies
    • Broadening of technology categories to clarify inclusion for Explorers
  – Oct 15 version considered final with possibility of minor updates to the 21-cm Cosmology Array (Table 9)
  – Following APS concurrence, assessment materials will be formally provided to the PCOS office and placed on TechSAG website.
Inflation Probe SAG Summary

– March 10, 2011: Dear colleague letter. Currently 50 signed up

– April 21: First Telecon (many participants)
  • Technology: Deep concerns about technology development funding
  • Mid-decadal review: is an essential mechanism to enable NWNH recommendations
  • Need a mechanism (project office?) to enable planning and organization for future space mission
  • Actions: work with project office on Technology Plan

– Following discussion in PhysPAG
  • Established committee of 7 to define an IP Technology Roadmap (Bock (JPL), chair + Gaier, Hanany, Irwin, Lee, Meyer, Moseley)
  • Worked closely with TechSAG; included two rounds of revisions with community
    • 10 page document is in its final form

– Actions:
  • With APS concurrence – submit document to PCOS and post on IPSAG web site
Gamma SAG Proposal

• **A possible new SAG:** Action: Liz Hays and Julie McEnery (more help welcome!) drafting a brief (<1-page) proposal for a Gamma-ray SAG
  - Science over different energy domains (Compton through VHE)
  - **Deliverables of SAG** and notional timeline; scope of effort

• First draft ready. Now reaching out to members of the broader community for input and iteration.

• PhysPAG will then discuss and may bring it to APS for consideration.
Next F2F Meetings

• Next PhysPAG F2F meeting:
  – Full-day meeting immediately before winter AAS (co-located)
    » Request approved by AAS: Sunday 8 January
  • Increase the turnout: more invited talks and plenty of notice.
  – EC working on agenda, choosing speakers. Outline:
    » News from HQ
    » TechSAG updates and discussions on next steps
    » IPSAG updates and preparing for Mid-decade Review
    » GammaSAG proposal and first steps
    » Focus topic: X-ray opportunities in a changing landscape
    » Focus topic: GW opportunities in a changing landscape
    » AOB

• Also special session during the AAS meeting to summarize activities of all three PAGs.
  » Request approved by AAS: 10 January 10:00-11:30

• Next-to-next F2F: April 2012 American Physical Society meeting, depending on date?
Discussion