

## **Resolutions and Actions Arising from the Gemini Board Meeting – November 2001**

1. The Gemini Board recommends that the Observatory proceed on establishing protocols for laser management and coordination involved in the use of laser guide star systems on Gemini North, and to follow these protocols for Gemini South as well.
2. The Board recommends the plan for observing for semester 2002A, namely, that on Gemini North, 40% of time will be used for science observations and 60% will be used for engineering shutdown. On Gemini South, 30% of time will be used for science observations and 70% will be used for engineering shutdown.
3. The Board recommends the plan for observing for semester 2002B, namely, that on Gemini North, 50% of time will be used for science observations and the remainder for engineering shutdown. On Gemini South, 35% of time will be used for science observations and 65% will be used for engineering shutdown.
4. The Gemini Board endorses the Observatory's plan for accelerated scientific outreach and public relations, and supports the principle of limited use of director discretionary time to enhance the scientific outreach and imaging potential of allocated programs. The use of director's discretionary time, including that for accelerated scientific outreach, will be reported to the Board.

The Board re-emphasizes the importance of timely publication of scientific results from the Gemini telescopes, and supports the Observatory's effort to encourage users of the telescope to publish their results promptly.

### **5. Construction Budget resolutions**

The Gemini Board notes that the revised 2001 Construction Budget shows no changes in the overall total from that as approved at the May 2001 Gemini Board meeting. The Board approves the revised 2001 construction budget of \$6,830,326.

The Gemini Board approves the transfer of any committed but unspent money in the 2001 budget into a budget for 2002.

The Gemini Board approves the proposed construction budget of \$0 for 2002, with the understanding that unspent money in the 2001 construction budget be continued into 2002 as necessary.

### **6. Operations Budget Resolutions**

The Gemini Board approves the revised 2001 Operations Budget of \$27,751,361 + \$347,141 for rework contingency and \$31,098,051 New Commitments + \$1,797,141 rework contingency.

The Gemini Board approves the proposed contingent 2002 Operations Budget of \$24,991,506 .

7. The Gemini Board endorses the Observatory's response to the AURA Commissioning Review and the actions proposed to address the Review's recommendations, namely that

- All science scheduling will be in queue mode, or for visitor instruments in service mode, to minimize the impact of visiting astronomers on the staff during instrument commissioning
- Scheduling of instruments be guided primarily by their ability to test the system's performance, and that visitor instruments will be scheduled only when required for the commissioning of future, similar, or facility instruments.
- Scheduling preserve the flexibility to address unexpected system faults until the facility is fully operational.

8. The Gemini Board continues to endorse the Observatory's practice of commissioning only one facility instrument per telescope in each semester, recognizing that this may lead to delivered instruments waiting to be commissioned.

9. The Gemini Board, following vigorous discussion, endorses the Observatory's efforts to find arrangements to provide the Gemini user community access to other observing facilities, such as Keck or ESO VLT, that provide complementary instrumentation capabilities, in exchange for access to unique instrumentation on Gemini.

## **Actions – Gemini Board Meeting, November 2001**

- 1. Action to Gemini Observatory:** The Board urges the Observatory to promote press activity associated with the dedication of the Gemini South telescope and to coordinate these activities closely with the national project offices.
- 2. Action to Gemini Observatory:** The Board requested the Observatory to prepare a background paper on laser safety systems, including references and sources of additional information, that would provide them with the necessary information to understand the issues involved in the planning and execution of laser guide star systems.
- 3. Action to NSF:** The Board requests that the Executive Agency ask the University of Hawaii for its concurrence in a further delay in the full implementation of the Operating and Site Development Agreement to accommodate the continuing need for large amounts of engineering time on Gemini North.
- 4. Action to Gemini Observatory:** The Board requests that the Observatory develop a specific plan for granting guaranteed observing time for teams that build facility instrument, starting from the principle of providing 20 nights for on-time acceptance of the instrument by the Observatory, with a decreasing number of nights awarded with delays in acceptance. The Board also requests the Observatory to arrive at a maximum number of nights that would be available in each semester for guaranteed time, and to present these plans to the Board for circulation and approval by correspondence.