



**GEMINI BOARD MEETING**  
LA SERENA, CHILE – 6-8 NOVEMBER 2013

**Resolutions Arising from the 6-8 Nov 2013 Gemini Board Meeting**

**2013.B.1.** The Board recognizes and appreciates the efforts, creativity and leadership exhibited by the Observatory and the Managing Organization, which allowed operations to continue with minimal disruption, during the lapse of U.S. government appropriations in October 2013.

**2013.B.2.** The Board designates a working group, consisting of the Observatory Director, Board Chair, Executive Agency representative, and Chilean Board member, to lead, monitor and oversee efforts to identify possible new partners for Gemini, and to begin negotiations with those partners at the earliest opportunity.

**2013.B.3.** The Board Chair and Executive Agency representative will prepare a document outlining the financial framework under which negotiations for new partners, limited term partnerships, and in-kind instrumentation contributions will be considered. This will be circulated to the Board for approval at the earliest opportunity, well before the next face-to-face meeting, to inform and empower the efforts of the working group leading partnership negotiations.

**2013.B.4.** The Board thanks the Observatory for the clear and transparent financial report, and appreciates efforts made to adapt its presentation to satisfy Board needs. In future reports, the Board would welcome information about the cumulative cost expended by the Observatory on individual long-term development projects.

**2013.B.5.** The Board notes the 2013 actual and forecasted expenditures presented in Table 1 of the financial report and endorsed by the Gemini Finance Committee (GFC). The Board is especially pleased to note that the forecasted variance in the O&M budget is at an acceptable level. For 2013, spending of up to 3% in excess of the O&M level approved at the May 2013 Board Meeting is authorized.

**2013.B.6.** The Board approves the Gemini 2014 Budget, with a total cash expenditure of \$36.960M, as detailed in the following Table:

	Expenses
Operations and Maintenance	\$30.130M
Facilities Development Fund	\$1.556M
Instrument Development Fund	\$5.274M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$36.960M</b>

As recommended by the GFC, the Board grants the Observatory spending authority on an amount within each category (O&M, FDF and IDF) that is not to exceed the amount in the above Table by more than 3%. The GFC and Board Chairs should be notified as soon as projections indicate that this limit is likely to be exceeded. As stated in Resolution 2013.A.5 from May 2013, the impact of significant variances should continue to be discussed with the GFC and Board at their semi-annual meetings.



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**2013.B.7.** The Board notes the 2015-2016 Budget forecast presented in Table 25 of the financial report and welcomes the thoughtful and accurate planning involved in producing this forecast. The Observatory is instructed to note that the level of future IDF contributions remains highly uncertain, and will likely not reach the anticipated level. The Board is committed to working with the Observatory to establish other mechanisms for instrument procurement that do not rely solely on IDF contributions. Collaborative efforts among the Gemini partners will be particularly desirable.

**2013.B.8.** The Board congratulates the Observatory for its recent success in bringing GPI, Flamingos-2 and GeMS/GSAOI to the point where they can begin to deliver on their scientific promise.

**2013.B.9.** The Board endorses the Observatory's plan to proceed with the GHOS project. The Managing Organization and the contractor should aim to conclude negotiations on a proposed contract, including all subcontracts, no later than December 31, 2013. Further delays will jeopardize the project.

**2013.B.10.** Given the uncertainty in IDF funding levels in 2014 and beyond, the Observatory should delay preparation of the Request for Proposals for the next instrument after GHOS.

**2013.B.11.** The Board is pleased to note further progress on Observatory-driven initiatives that are aimed at enhancing the scientific output of the Observatory. In particular, the Board endorses the Observatory's plan for implementing the Large and Long Programs as described in the report, and looks forward to the launching of this initiative.

**2013.B.12.** The Board endorses the Observatory's plan, in principle, for proceeding to develop the fast turnaround proposal process, and looks forward to considering a more detailed implementation plan at its next meeting. The Observatory is encouraged to include in its proposal a mechanism for allowing Gemini staff to participate in this program.

**2013.B.13.** The Board requests annual reports from the Observatory on the usage of Director's Discretionary time, starting at the next meeting in May 2014.

**2013.B.14.** The Board approves the STAC's recommended science time fractions for Semester 2014B, which are goals of 89% on Gemini-North, and 84% or 88% on Gemini South, depending on whether or not the GeMS deformable mirror is commissioned. A minimum science time that is lower than the goal by 5% is approved.

**2013.B.15.** The Observatory is requested to provide a report on their plans to operate the laser systems, on both sites, without the aid of laser spotters.

**2013.B.16.** The Board welcomes the report on the Observatory's efforts to develop new roles for incorporating NGO resources in their plans in a mutually beneficial way. The Board is pleased with the progress that has been made and looks forward to future updates.



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**2013.B.17.** The Board acknowledges another detailed, thoughtful and constructive report from the AOC-G. Their sound advice on management issues over the past several years is being reflected in positive changes at the Observatory.

**2013.B.18.** The Board appreciates the valuable progress the STAC has made on developing a Long Range Vision. The executive summary provided is thoughtful and forms a helpful framework for development. The STAC is asked to build upon this framework, and prioritize the general categories of new or upgraded technical capabilities that are most valuable for the general health of the Observatory. This prioritization may assume that visitor instruments and time exchange with other Observatories might complement these capabilities.

**2013.B.19.** The Board thanks the STAC for its thoughtful report on Key Performance Indicators. The metrics of publications per program and telescope oversubscription rate, are identified as two useful metrics. The Observatory is encouraged to use these metrics, among others, as a way to guide efforts toward improving the scientific output of the Observatory.

**2013.B.20.** The Board will identify a candidate for the future Chair of the STAC as soon as possible, and certainly before its next meeting in May 2014, to ensure that the Chair will have experience before taking the position formally.

**2013.B.21.** The Board thanks the outgoing Deputy Chair, Karl Gebhardt, for his years of valuable service on the Gemini Board.