

Jessica A. Gaskin (Study Scientist, MSFC)

On Behalf of the X-Ray Surveyor Community

# THE X-RAY SURVEYOR MISSION



# X-ray Surveyor Goals

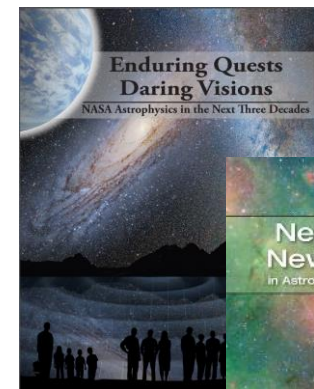
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- **Scientifically compelling:** frontier science from Solar system to first accretion light in Universe; revolution in understanding physics of astronomical systems
- **Leaps in Capability:** large area with high angular resolution for 1–2 orders of magnitude gains in sensitivity, large field of view with subarcsec imaging, high resolution spectroscopy for point-like and extended sources
- **Feasible:** *Chandra*-like mission with regards to cost and complexity with the new technology for optics and instruments already at TRL3 and proceeding to TRL6 before Phase B

**Consistent with:**

***NASA Astrophysics Roadmap: Enduring Quests, Daring Visions***

***2010 Astrophysics Decadal Survey: New Worlds, New Horizons***



# Scientifically Compelling

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**X-Ray Surveyor will allow us to explore all sources of high energy in the Universe and in doing so will address NASA Strategic Questions:**

**How does the Universe work?**

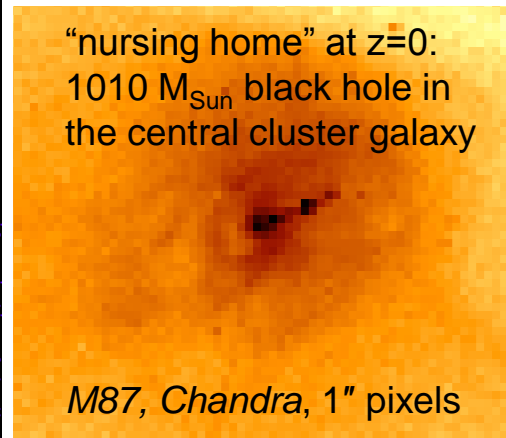
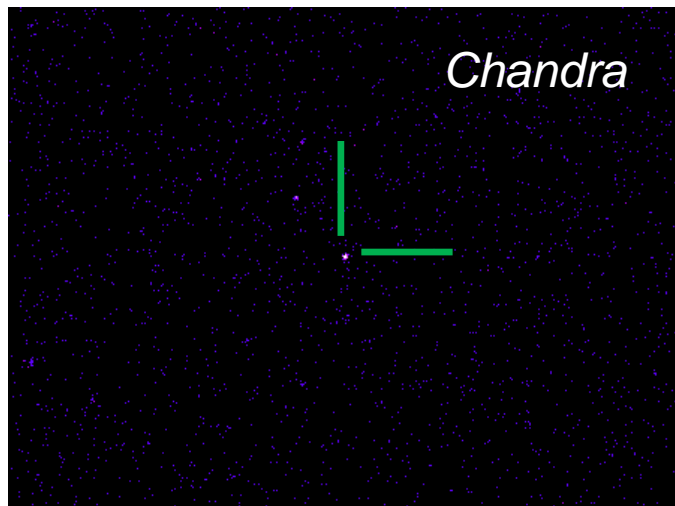
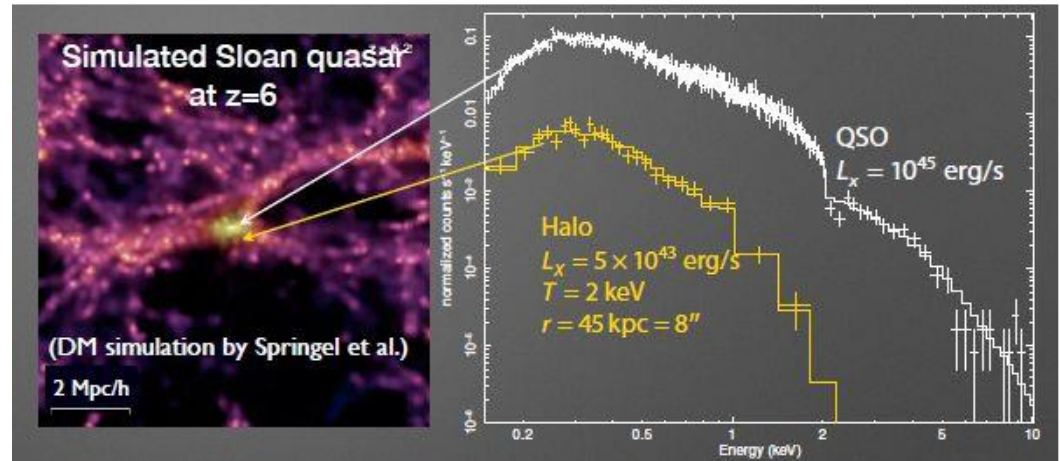
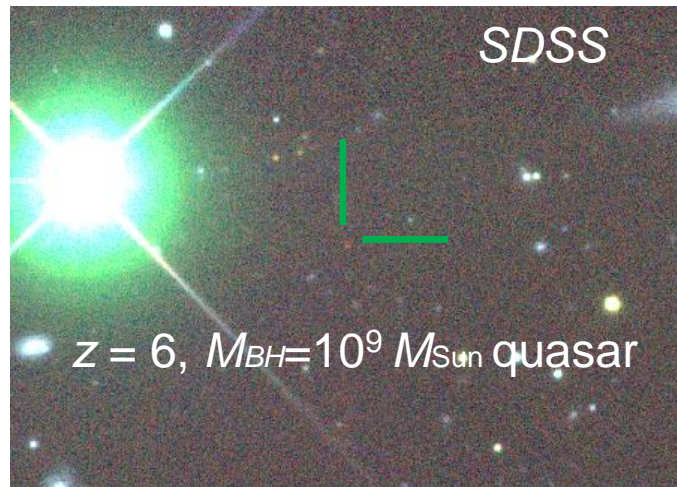
**and**

**How did we get there?**

**Key topics that will be addressed include:**

- 1) *The Origin and Growth of the First Supermassive Black Holes***
- 2) *The Physics of Feedback and Accretion in Galaxies and Clusters***
- 3) *Galaxy Evolution and the Growth of Cosmic Structure***
- 4) *The physics of matter in Extreme Environments***
- 5) *The origin and evolution of the stars that make up our universe.***

# Black Holes: From Birth to Today's Monsters



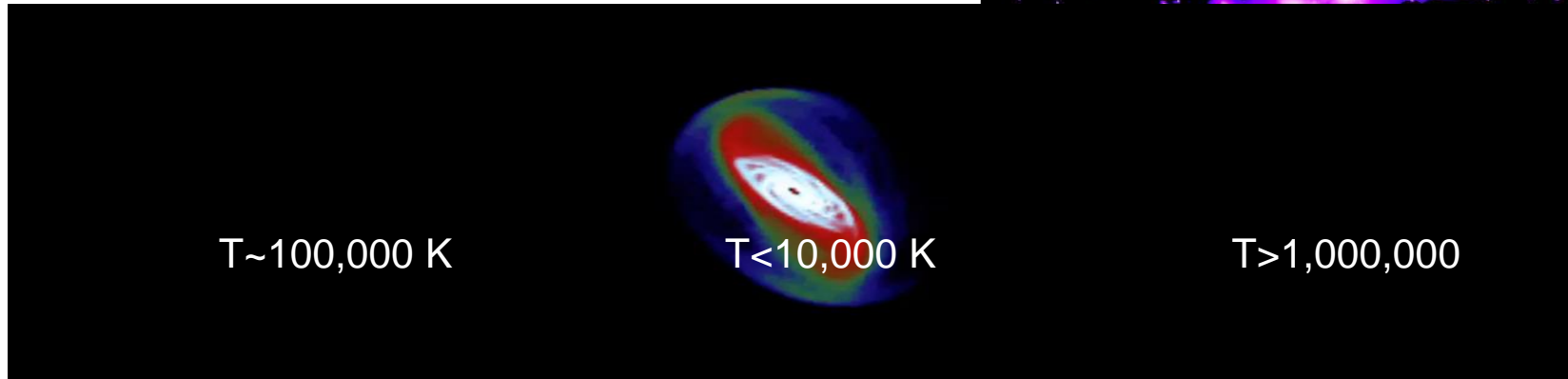
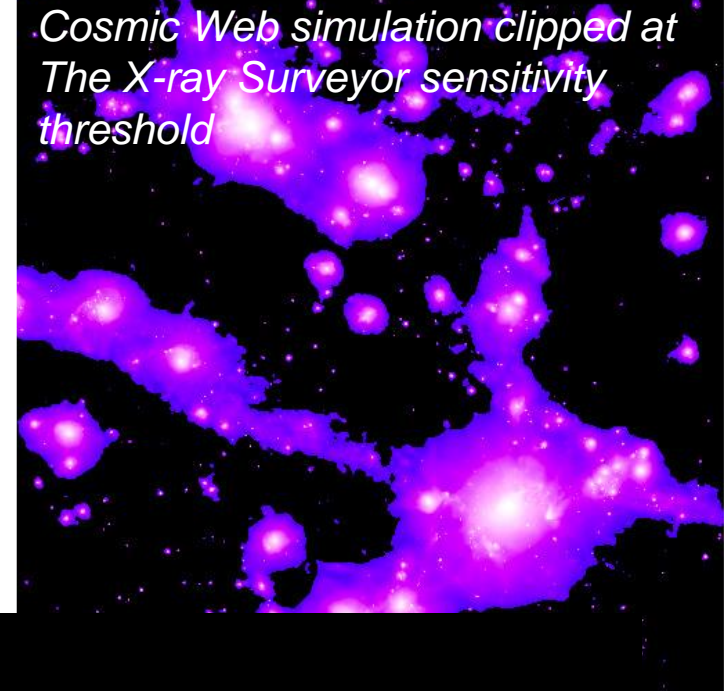
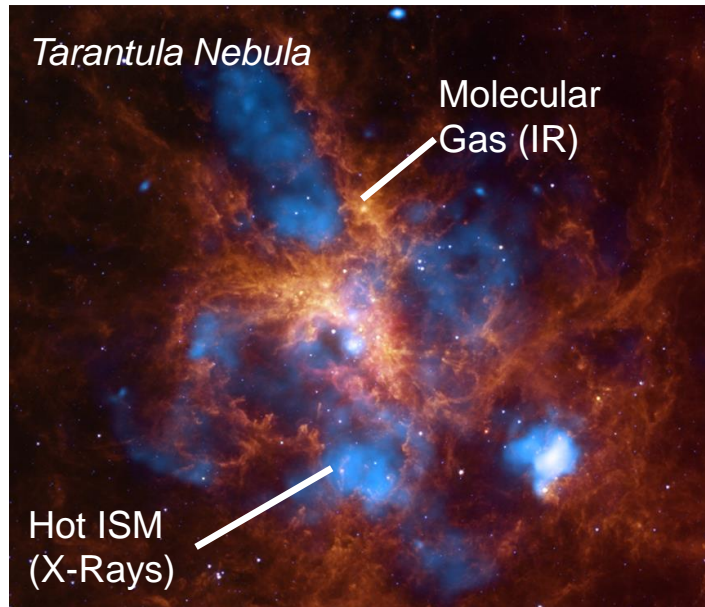
Also:

- Electromagnetic signatures of black hole mergers
- Using X-ray binary population as tracers of star formation, their role in cosmic reionization
- Jets

What is their origin?

How do they co-evolve with galaxies  
and affect environment?

# Cycles of Baryons In and Out of Galaxies



Generation of hot ISM in young star-forming regions. How does hot ISM push molecular gas away and quench star formation?

Structure of the Cosmic Web through observations of hot IGM *in emission*

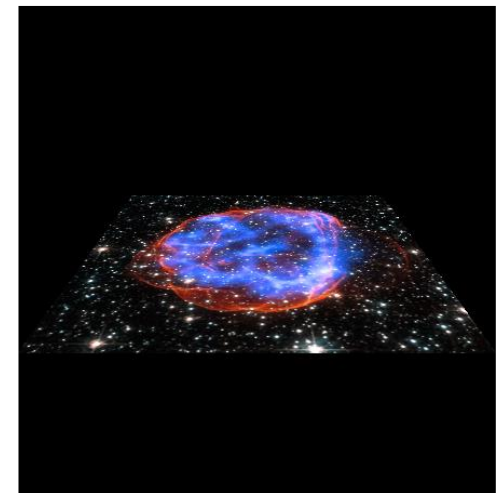
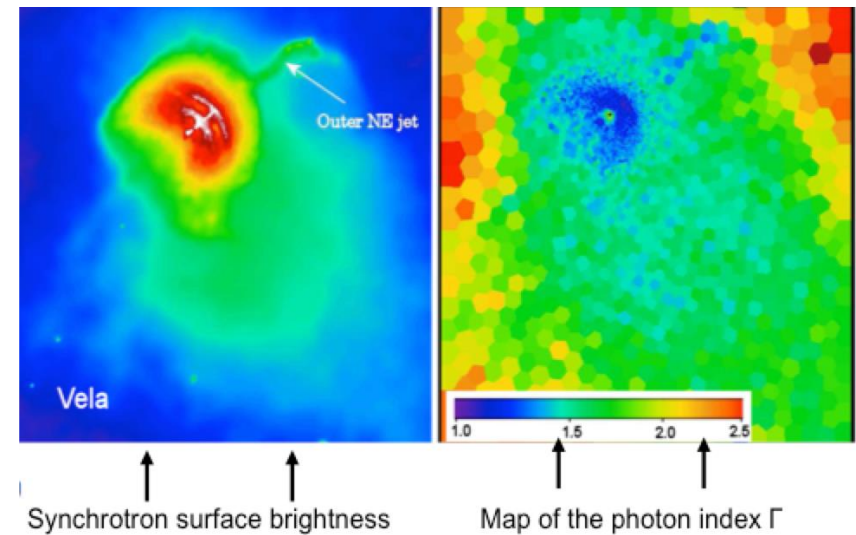
**How do galaxies emerge from initial conditions?**



# What physics is behind the structure of astronomical objects?

Plasma physics, gas dynamics, relativistic flows in astronomical objects:

- Supernova remnants
- Particle acceleration in pulsar wind nebulae
- Jet-IGM interactions
- Hot-cold gas interfaces in galaxy clusters and Galactic ISM
- Plasma flows in the Solar system, stellar winds & ISM via charge exchange emission
- Off-setting radiative cooling in clusters, groups & galaxies
- ...



**Required capability:** high-resolution spectroscopy **and** resolving relevant physical scales

## ASTROPHYSICS

### Decadal Survey Missions



# STDT Members



Steve Allen, Stanford



Megan Donahue, MSU



Laura Lopez, Ohio State



Alexey Vikhlinin, SAO (Chair)



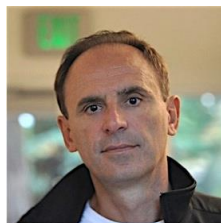
Feryal Özel, Arizona (Chair)



Mark Bautz, MIT



Ryan Hickox, Dartmouth



Piero Madau, UCSC



Mike Pivovarov, LLNL



Eliot Quataert, Berkeley



Niel Brandt, Penn State



Tesla Jeltema, UCSC



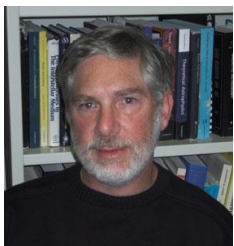
Rachel Osten, STScI



Dave Pooley, Trinity



Chris Reynolds, UMD



Joel Bregman, Michigan



Juna Kollmeier, OCIW



Frits Paerels, Columbia



Andy Ptak, GSFC



Daniel Stern, JPL



# Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Of The STDT

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**Daniel Evans, NASA HQ  
(Program Scientist)**



**Ann Hornschemeier,  
PCOS Program  
Office Chief Scientist**



**Jessica Gaskin, MSFC  
(Study Scientist, voting  
member of STDT)**



**Rob Petre,  
GSFC X-ray Lab  
Branch Chief**



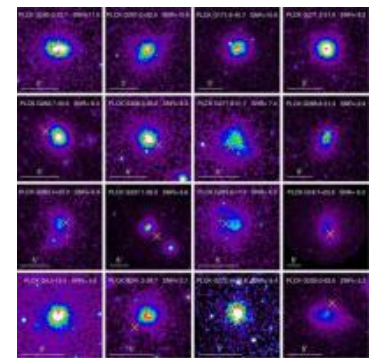
**Randall Smith,  
Athena liaison**



**Paul Nandra  
DLR-Appointed  
Observer**

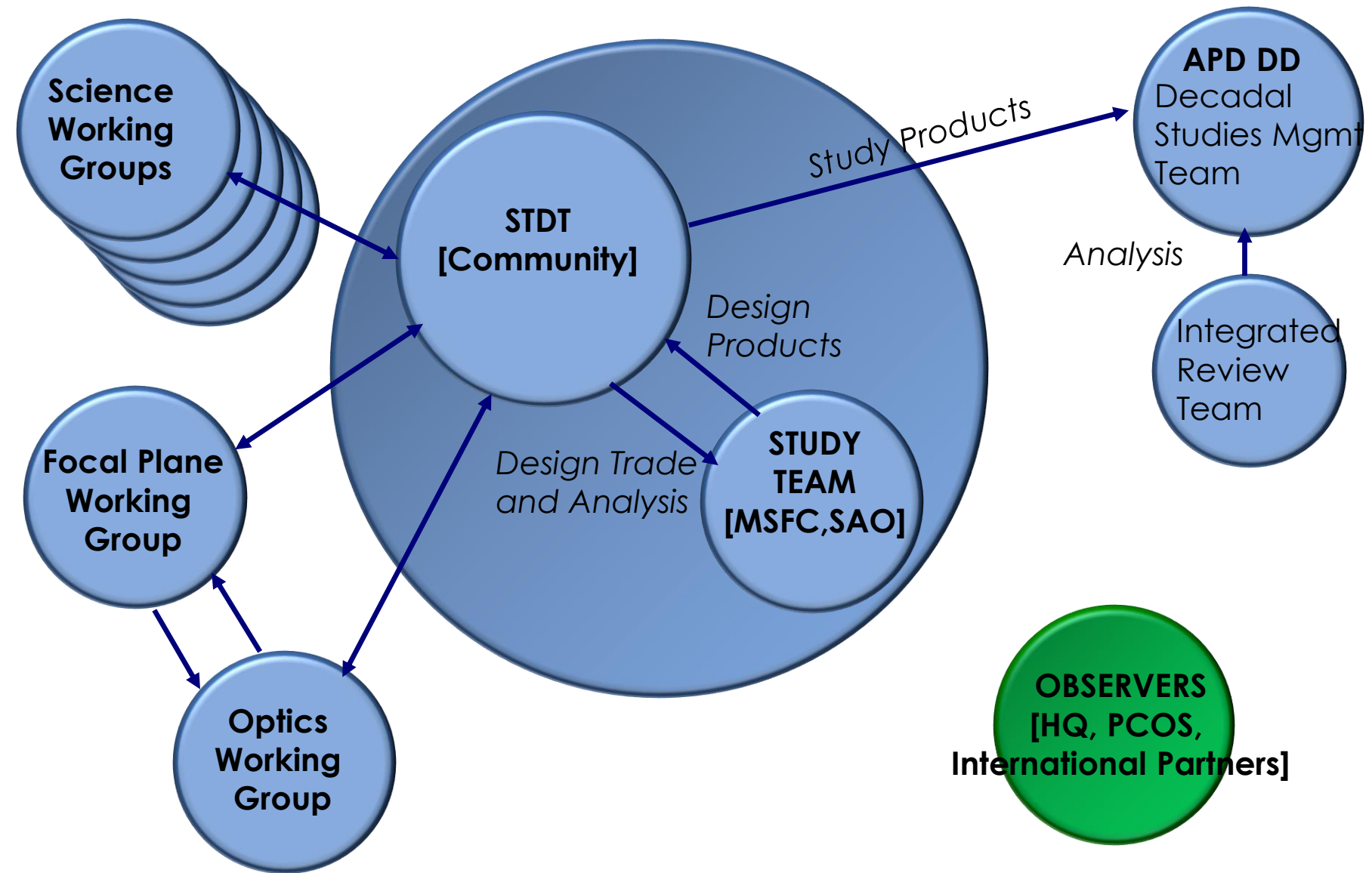


**Brian McNamara  
CSA-Appointed  
Observer**



**Gabriel Pratt  
CNES-Appointed  
Observer**

# STDT And Management Structure



# MSFC AND SAO STUDY TEAM LEADERSHIP



**Alexey Vikhlinin,  
SAO, STDT Chair**



**Jessica Gaskin,  
MSFC, Study Scientist**



**Gregg Gelmis  
MSFC Study Manager**



**Harvey Tananbaum  
SAO Senior Scientist**



**Martin Weisskopf  
MSFC Senior Scientist**



**Doug Swartz  
USRA/MSFC  
Deputy Study Scientist**

# STDT DELIVERABLES

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**Study output will provide the Decadal Survey Committee with:**

1. A **science case** for the mission
2. A **notional mission** and observatory, including a report on any tradeoff analyses
3. A **design reference mission**, including strawman payload trade studies.
4. A **technology assessment** including: current status, roadmap for maturation & resources
5. A **cost assessment** and listing of the top technical risks to delivering the science capabilities
6. A **top level schedule** including a notional launch date and top schedule risks.

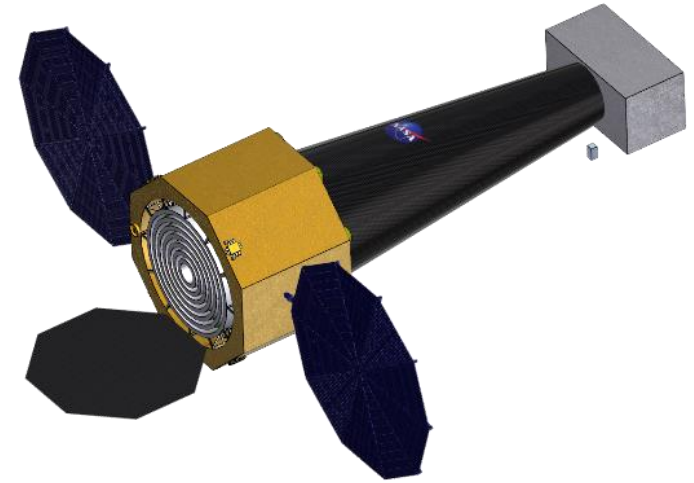
**Concept Maturity Level 4 should be achieved by the end of the study**



# X-ray Surveyor Mission Concept

**Study Goal: Obtain a feasible cost estimate and provide the STDT with one possible configuration as a starting point.** The STDT may choose to use all, some or none of the work resulting from this effort.

**Notional** Mission Concept: Spacecraft, instruments, optics, orbit, radiation environment, launch vehicle and costing



## ***Leap in sensitivity: High throughput with sub-arcsec resolution***

- $\times 50$  more effective area than *Chandra*. 4 Msec *Chandra* Deep Field done in 80 ksec.

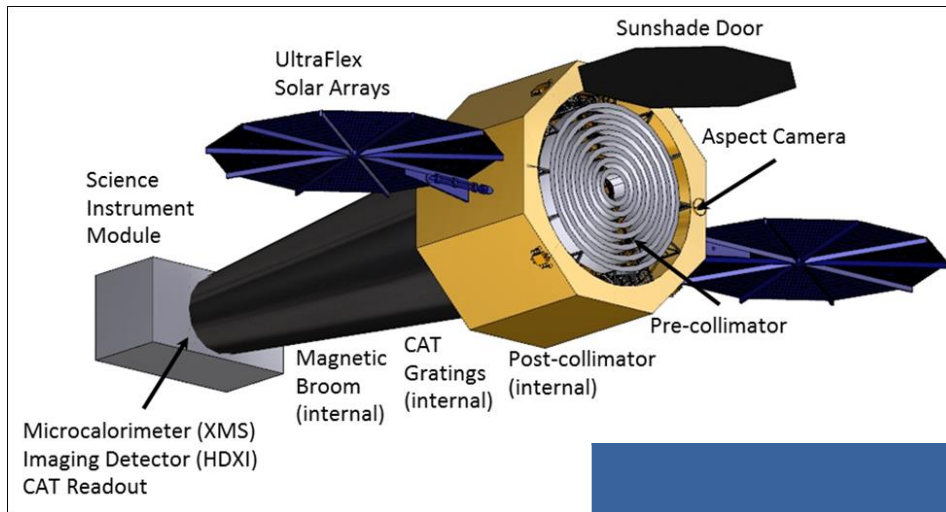
Threshold for blind detections in a 4Msec survey is  $\sim 3 \times 10^{-19}$  erg/s/cm<sup>2</sup> (0.5–2 keV band)

- $\times 16$  larger solid angle for sub-arcsec imaging — out to 10 arcmin radius
- $\times 800$  higher survey speed at the *Chandra* Deep Field limit

## **Informal Concept Definition Team:**

J. A. Gaskin (MSFC), A. Vikhlinin (SAO), M. C. Weisskopf (MSFC), H. Tananbaum (SAO), S. Bandler (GSFC), M. Bautz (MIT), D. Burrows (PSU), A. Falcone (PSU), F. Harrison (Cal Tech), R. Heilmann (MIT), S. Heinz (Wisconsin), C.A. Kilbourne (GSFC), C. Kouveliotou (GWU), R. Kraft (SAO), A. Kravtsov (Chicago), R. McEntaffer (Iowa), P. Natarajan (Yale), S.L. O'Dell (MSFC), A. Ptak (GSFC), R. Petre (GSFC), B.D. Ramsey (MSFC), P. Reid (SAO), D. Schwartz (SAO), L. Townsley (PSU)

# Notional Optics & Instruments



- High-resolution X-ray telescope
- Critical Angle Transmission XGS
- X-ray Microcalorimeter Imaging Spectrometer
- High Definition X-ray Imager

Concept Payload for:  
Feasibility (TRL 6)  
Mass  
Power  
Mechanical  
Costing (~\$3B)

	Chandra	X-Ray Surveyor
Relative effective area (0.5 – 2 keV)	1 (HRMA + ACIS)	50
Angular resolution (50% power diam.)	0.5"	0.5"
4 Ms point source sensitivity (erg/s/cm <sup>2</sup> )	5x10 <sup>-18</sup>	3x10 <sup>-19</sup>
Field of View with < 1" HPD (arcmin <sup>2</sup> )	20	315
Spectral resolving power, R, for point sources	1000 (1 keV) 160 (6 keV)	5000 (0.2-1.2 keV) 1200 (6 keV)
Spatial scale for R>1000 of extended sources	N/A	1"
Wide FOV Imaging	16' x 16' (ACIS) 30' x 30' (HRC)	22' x 22'

**NOT THE FINAL  
CONFIGURATION!!!**

# X-Ray Surveyor Success

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## **Scientifically compelling**

- Gather broad (domestic and international) Science Community Support beyond the X-Ray Astronomy Community
- Maintain steadfast science requirements throughout the lifetime of the Program

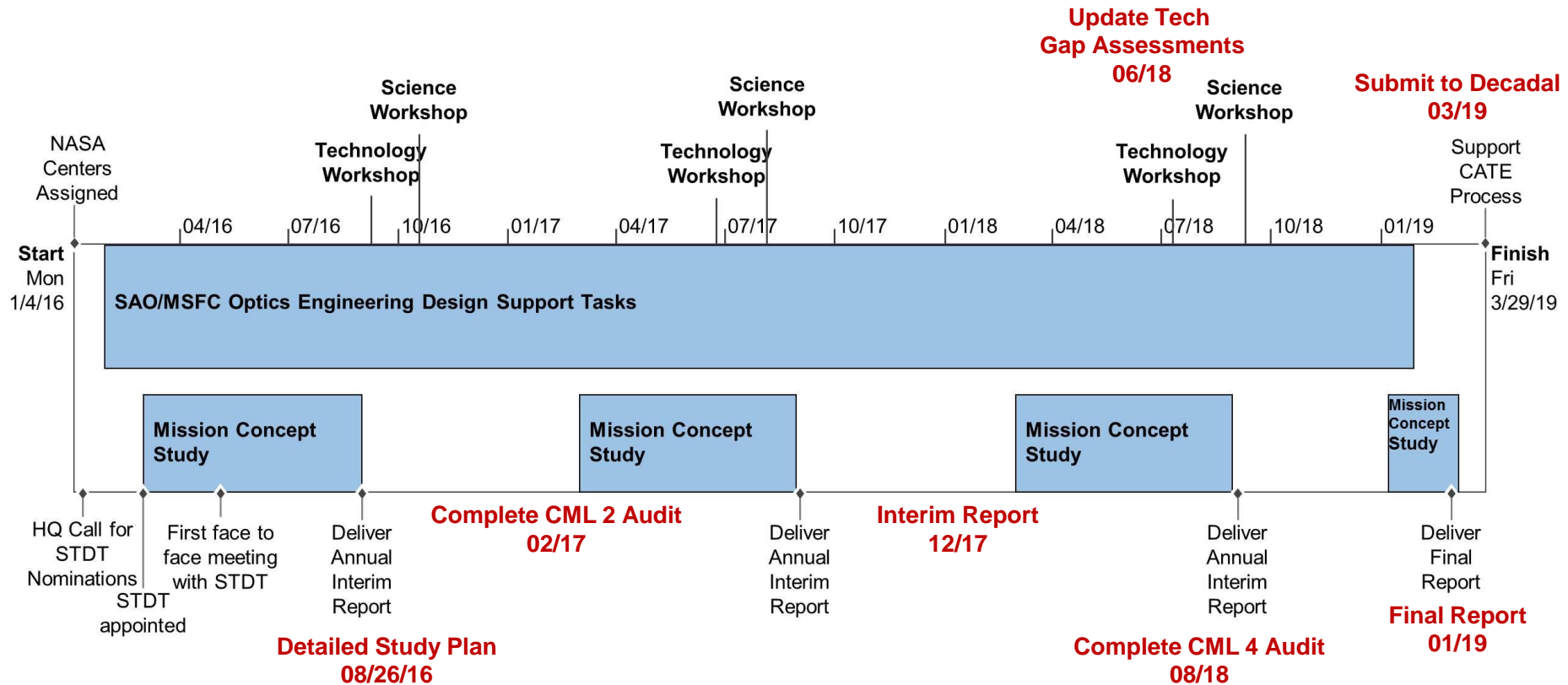
## **Leaps in Capability**

- Allow for multiple technology paths to achieve the requirements for the optics and Science Instruments.
- Formulate a strong plan for achieving these requirements
- Invest in technology development and proof-of-concept testing
  - Concept studies are great, but having working hardware is better

## **Feasibility**

- Embrace Chandra Heritage and lessons learned
- Utilize multiple previous studies when possible (IXO, Con-X, AXSIO, etc...)

# Schedule (TBC by STDT)



- Mission Concept Studies can be adjusted in time and duration as needed
- Workshops can be adjusted as needed to fit deliverables and schedules

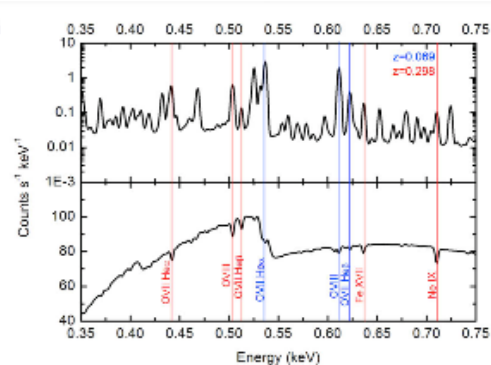
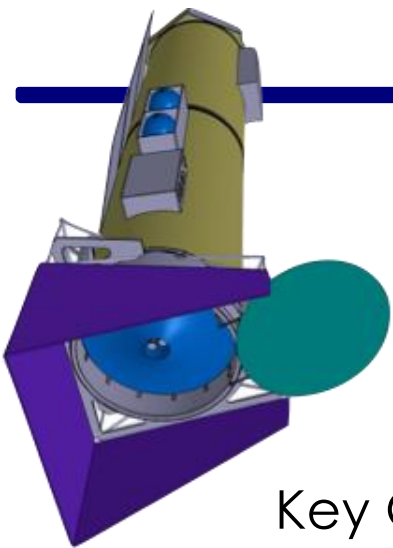
**CML = Concept Maturity Level**



BACKUP SLIDES



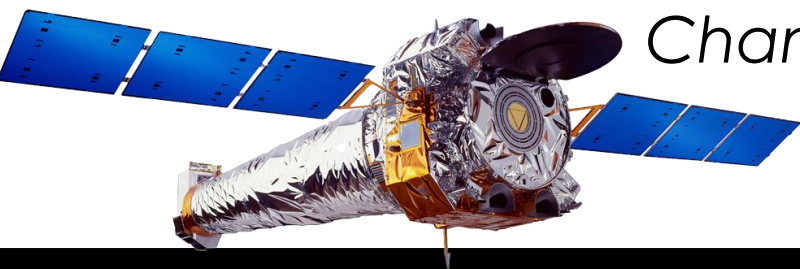
# Athena



## Key Goals:

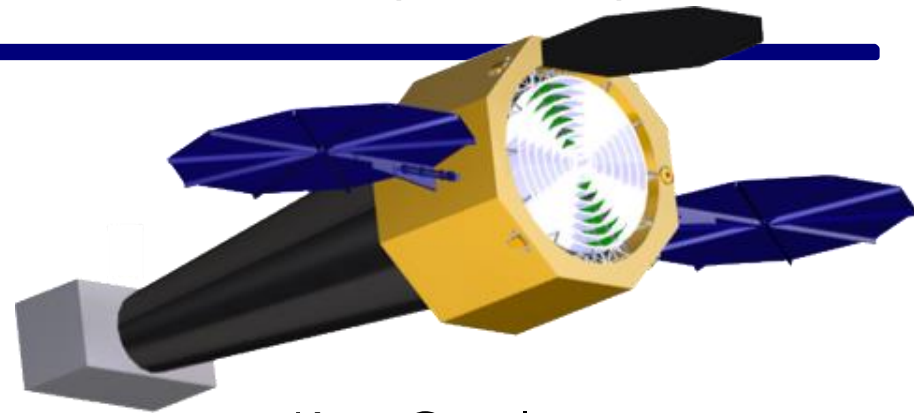
- Microcalorimeter spectroscopy ( $R \approx 1000$ )
- Wide, medium-sensitivity surveys

Area is built up at the expense of angular resolution ( $10 \times$  worse) & sensitivity ( $5 \times$  worse than *Chandra*)



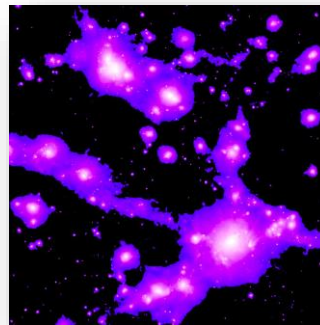
Chandra

# X-ray Surveyor



## Key Goals:

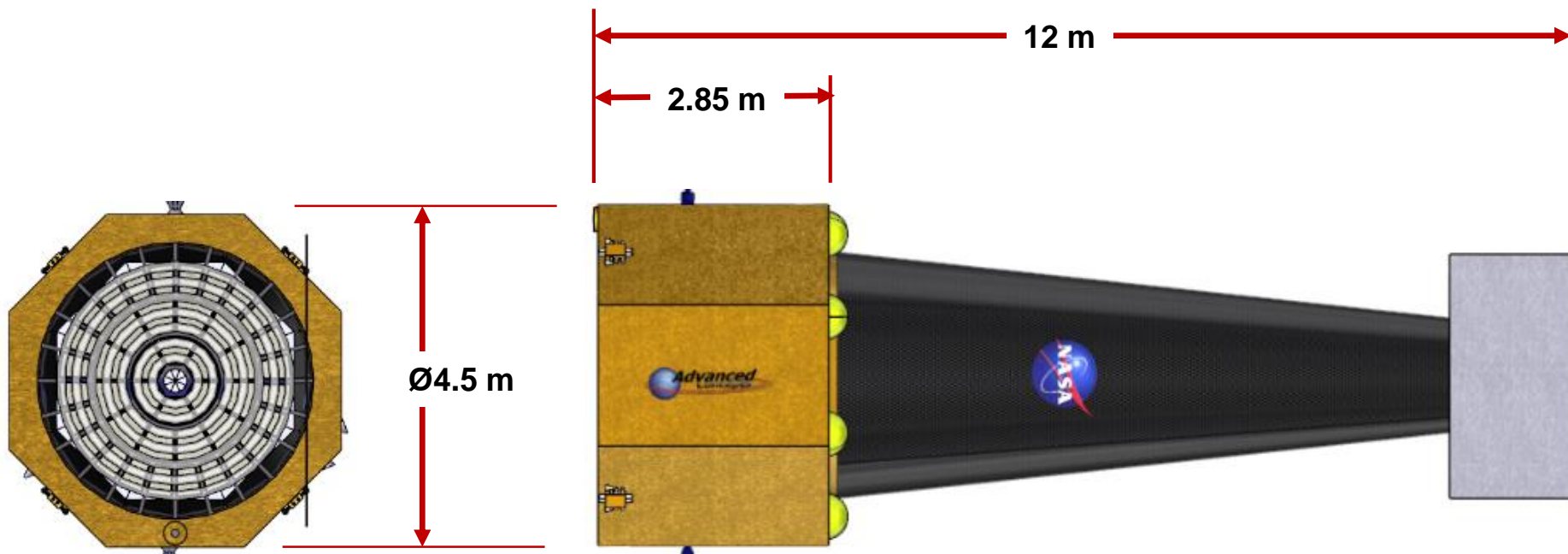
- Sensitivity ( $50 \times$  better than *Chandra*)
- $R \approx 1000$  spectroscopy on  $1''$  scales, adding 3rd dimension to data
- $R \approx 5000$  spectroscopy for point sources



- ✓ Area is built up while preserving *Chandra* angular resolution ( $0.5''$ )
- ✓  $16 \times$  field of view with sub-arcsec imaging

# A Successor to *Chandra*

- Angular resolution at least as good as *Chandra*
  - Much higher photon throughput than *Chandra* (observations are photon-limited)
- ✓ Incorporated relevant prior (Con-X, IXO, AXSIO) development and *Chandra* heritage → ✓ Limits most spacecraft requirements to *Chandra*-like → ✓ Achieves *Chandra*-like cost (\$2.95B for Phase B through launch)



# MSFC AND SAO SUPPORT

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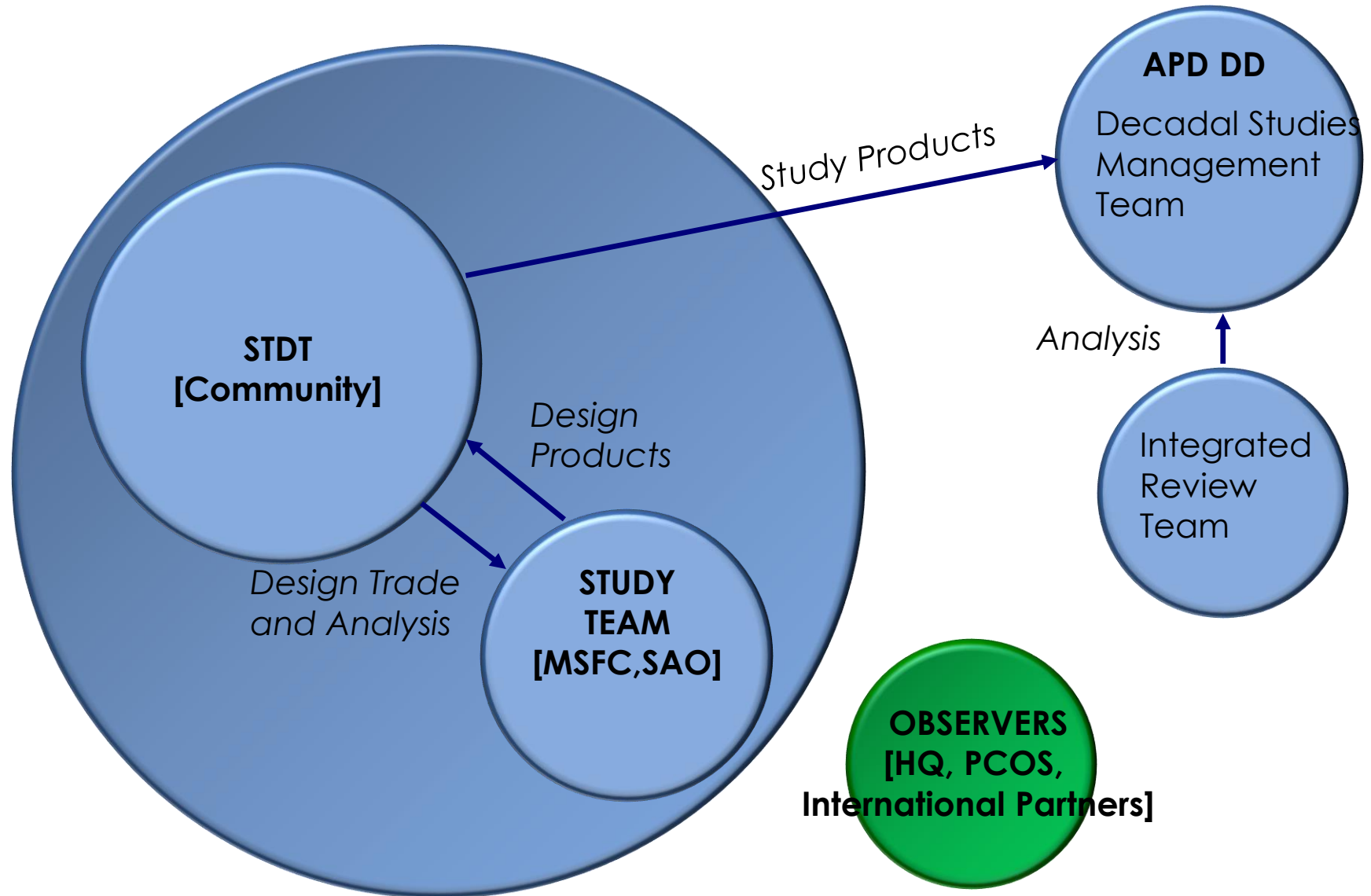
## **Support the STDT In Carrying Out Concept Development through the Advanced Concept Office at MSFC and Engineering/Science Design Studies for risk reduction**

Example Engineering/Science Design Studies that can be carried out as requested by the STDT include:

- develop a detailed optical prescription
- consider trades between angular resolution, effective area, and vignetting in different energy bands
- conceptualize an approach to a module mount design
- conceptualize an approach to full module design
- develop a model incorporating mechanical design and the notional assembly and alignment process
- perform structural, thermal, and optical analyses and check consistency with expected launch load
- develop independent error budget to assess allocations for reflector figure quality, mounting, aligning
- evaluate the type of metrology required, its accuracy and its volume
- develop a set of calibration requirements and use these to formulate a calibration plan
- develop a preliminary workflow for the assembly and alignment

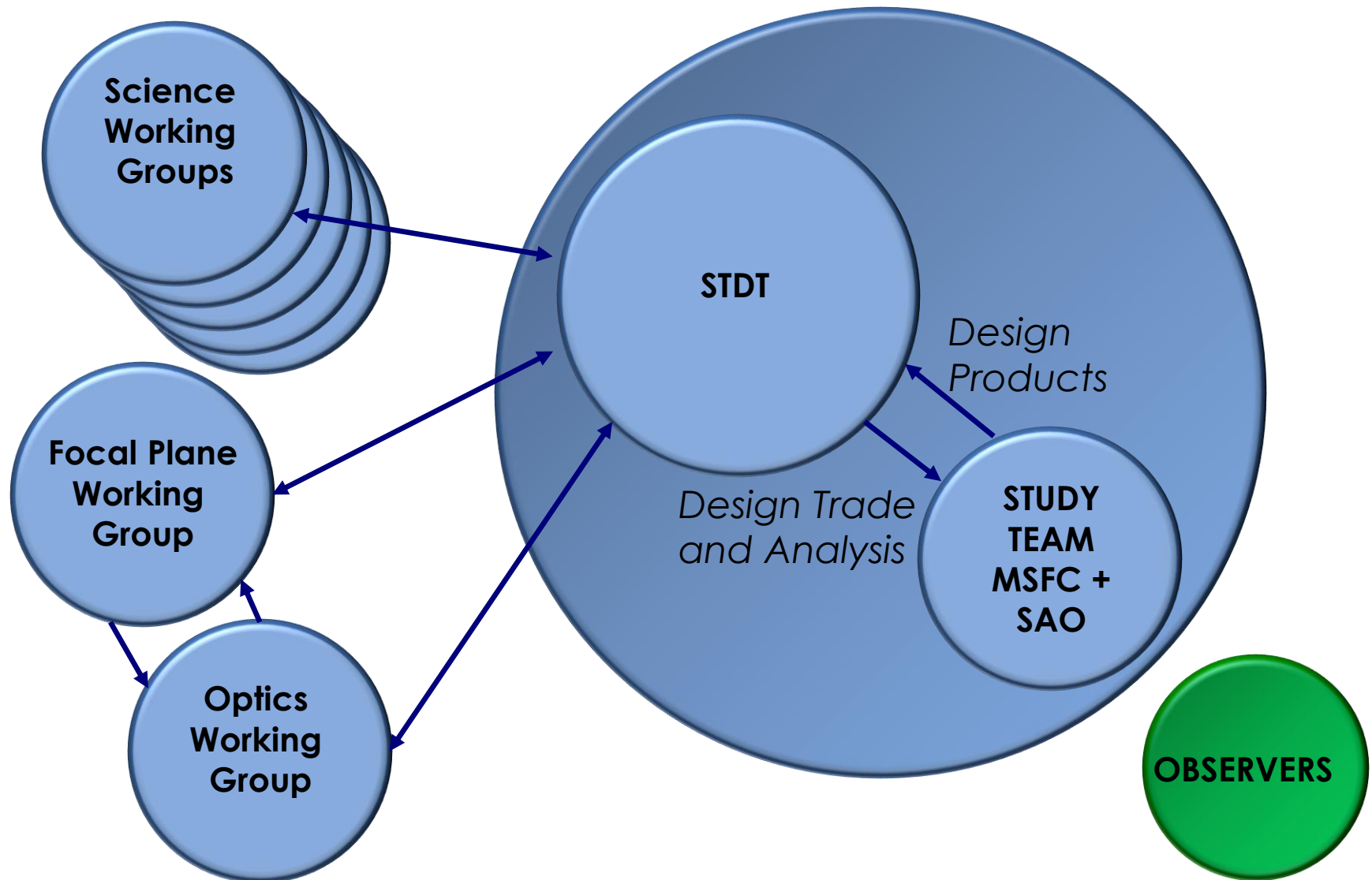


# STDT And Management Structure



# Example Working Groups -TBD by STDT

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# STDT Science & Technology Specializations

Last	First	Expertise	Mission Experience
Allen	Steve	Clusters, clusters as cosmological probes	Astro-H SWG, IXO, LSST DES collaboration, SPT
Bautz	Mark	Mission development, detectors, clusters, SZ	IXO, X-ray CST, ASTRO-H SWG, MSFC/SAO XRS concept team
Brandt	Niel	Deep surveys, high-z quasars, LSST	Athena SWG Chair, numerous previous X-ray mission teams, LSST Advisory Committee
Bregman	Joel	Missing baryons around galaxies, highly cognizant of instrumentation	Athena, Con-X, IXO US Science Chair
Donahue	Megan	Circumgalactic medium, diffuse gas, feedback	GMT Advisory Committee
Hickox	Ryan	AGN, surveys, large scale structure, X-ray background	WFXT mission concept, NuSTAR Sci Team
Jeltema	Tesla	Clusters, groups, supernovae, multi-wavelength, XRBs, DES, LSST	
Kollmeier	Juna	Hydrodynamical simulations, large scale structure, galaxy evolution, SMBH growth, IGM	
Lopez	Laura	Sne, SNR, PWN, high resolution spectroscopy	
Madau	Piero	High-z Universe, first generations of supermassive black holes, and epoch of reionization	E-ELT SWG
Osten	Rachel	Stellar atmospheres, stellar flares, high resolution spectroscopy	Con-X FST, IXO, XAP STDT, ALMA Advisory Commit
Ozel	Feryal	Neutron stars and black holes	NICER Co-I, LOFT Co-I
Paerels	Frits	High resolution spectroscopy	XMM RGS, STDTs for HTXS, Con-X, IXO, XEUS, ASTRO-H SWG
Pivovarov	Mike	Design and manufacturing of X-ray optics	NuSTAR Science Team, Int Axion Observatory
Pooley	Dave	Lensed quasars, globular clusters, AGN mergers	
Ptak	Andy	Mission development, galaxies, LLAGN	WFXT, IXO, Athena, MSFC/SAO XRS Study
Quataert		Compact objects, plasma astrophysics, stellar physics, galaxy formation	
Reynolds	Chris	Accreting black holes	NuSTAR, ASTRO-H, Praxys, Con-X, IXO
Stern	Daniel	Heavily obscured AGN, mission operations and development	NuSTAR, WFIRST SDT, PolSTAR
Vikhlinin	Alexey	Clusters, mission development	Lead of MSFC/SAO XRS Study. Very familiar with X-ray optics and instrumentation