PhysPAG Status

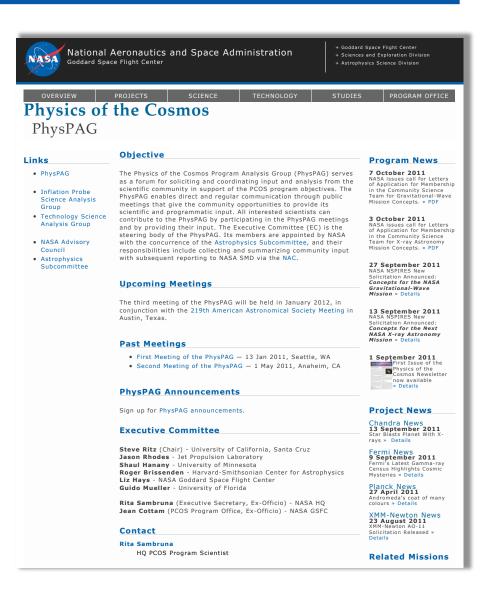
NAC APS Meeting 20 October 2011

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

physpag-ec@bigbang.gsfc.nasa.gov

- 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)
- Web site: http://pcos.gsfc.nasa.gov/sags/techsag.php
 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