

## Operations Working Group – Meeting 26 – February 19-20, 2014

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### Resolutions

**RESOLUTION 26.1:** The OpsWG is concerned about current restrictions on Gemini Observatory staff applying as PIs for Large & Long Programs, and even for regular queue programs, and the effect this can have both on staff morale, and the opportunity to be productive users of the instruments which they support. The OpsWG encourages the Observatory to find ways to be more flexible in how its staff apply for Gemini time as PIs in their own right.

**RESOLUTION 26.2:** The OpsWG notes the sad passing of Gemini laser engineer Vincent Fesquet, and relays its condolences to his colleagues and family.

**RESOLUTION 26.3:** The OpsWG encourages the Gemini Observatory to take a fresh look at the longstanding principles of its queue process, including possible changes to the observing condition constraints; the relative fractions of Band 1, Band 2, and Band 3 time; and completion fraction targets in each band. Members of the OpsWG would be happy to assist Gemini staff in reassessing these.

**RESOLUTION 26.4:** The OpsWG supports the Observatory's efforts to improve the efficiency of Phase 2 checking and technical assessments, and will begin trialing these changes from Semester 2014B.

**RESOLUTION 26.5:** The OpsWG congratulates the GPI team on the remarkably smooth commissioning of such a complex instrument as GPI, and the stunning first light results presented at the 223rd AAS meeting.

**RESOLUTION 26.6:** The OpsWG congratulates the software group for continuing improvements in the OT, in particular the recent introduction of the Sync capability.

**RESOLUTION 26.7:** On the basis of results provided by the QAP in the past semester the OpsWG agrees that the FWHM values corresponding to IQ20 ought to be relaxed slightly to better reflect the actual frequency of occurrence, thereby reducing the number of IQ20 programs that have aborted sequences and increasing their completion rate. While there is some indication that the IQ85 FWHM values might be able to be reduced, the OpsWG is concerned about the impact this could have on IQ70 program completions, and that these results may be biased by incomplete QAP sampling in poorer seeing conditions.

**RESOLUTION 26.8:** The OpsWG congratulates the Observatory on the long-awaited rollout of the Data Reduction Forum, and will work to maintain the momentum generated and make this a site frequently visited by users.

**RESOLUTION 26.9:** The OpsWG is of the view that a fairer way to implement rollover at ITAC is that only partners with active rollover programs in the next semester have their allocatable time reduced accordingly; rather than the current process where all partners have their time reduced in proportion to partner share, regardless of whether they have active rollover programs or not. However in order to give the NTACs time to absorb the implications of this change, and adjust their individual rollover policies if they choose, these changes should not be implemented until Semester 2015A.

**RESOLUTION 26.10:** The OpsWG is immensely grateful to Bernadette Rodgers for all her years of service as Head of Science Operations at Gemini South, and wishes her all the best in her future endeavours.