



## GEMINI BOARD MEETING

10 MAY, 13-14, 2021 VIA ZOOM  
RESOLUTIONS

### **Resolutions Arising from the 10 May and 13-14 2021 Gemini Board Meeting**

#### **Introduction**

The Board met via videoconference on 10 May and 13-14 May 2021. Once again, the Observatory staff is commended for their continued high level of performance and professionalism in spite of the ongoing difficult situations in both Hawai'i and Chile. The Observatory is undertaking projects that are unprecedented in both scale and number; the associated challenges this naturally brings are further compounded not only by the ongoing pandemic, but also by the necessary adjustments related to the very recent assimilation of the workforce into the NOIRLab RSS and ESS labor pools. In spite of this, GHOST will soon be commissioned, a clear and scientifically exciting path forward has been identified for the GEMMA/GNAO project, SCORPIO is still on track to be at Gemini South ahead of the start of Rubin Observatory's operations, IGRINS-2 development is proceeding apace, and the DRAGONS imaging and spectroscopic pipeline are either deployed or well underway. These are truly remarkable achievements of which the Observatory staff and executives should be justly proud.

The Board was pleased with the results of the recent NOIRLab "pulse" survey, which show that the staff is overall positive about the effectiveness of the NOIRLab structure and satisfied with the level of communication and support they receive. The transition to NOIRLab has indeed proceeded very smoothly, and the high level of communication and fruitful collaboration established between NOIRLab and the Board on items ranging from the organization of press releases to the drafting of NOIRLab's Strategic Vision and 5-year Renewal Proposal are very much appreciated.

Finally, the Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Bo Reipurth for his service to the Board, and to welcome Dr. Karen Meech as the new member representing Hawai'i. Last but certainly not least, the Board would like to extend the warmest best wishes to Terry Lee, Gemini's Executive Assistant, and Réne Rutten, Gemini's Associate Director for Chile Operations, who will be leaving the Observatory after many years of outstanding service. The Board joins the STAC in welcoming Janice Lee as Gemini's new Chief Scientist, and in congratulating Stephen Goodsell in his new role as Head of Strategic Planning.

The Board Resolutions below are for public release. In addition, the Board approved a number of Actions directed to Gemini's Executive Agency, the Board, and its subcommittees.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

**2021.A.1.** The Board is pleased to see the continued operations at Gemini North and Gemini South, despite the significant challenges still associated with the COVID-19 global pandemic. The Board commends the Observatory leadership for ensuring that all safety protocols are in place, and the Observatory staff for their commitment and resilience.



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**2021.A.2. STAC Report and Recommendations.** The Board thanks the STAC for providing a detailed report from its 10-11 May 2021 meeting. The Board endorses the recommendations contained in that report, specifically:

**2021.A.2a.** The Board endorses the following development priorities, in decreasing order: GNAO+GIRMOS, SCORPIO, GHOST, IGRINS-2, GPI-2, GLAO/ASM CoD, GNIRS Controller, GeMS Improvements, GNIRS IFU and GPOL, and IUP. We note that the priorities above reflect the fact that GIRMOS is treated as an integral part of GNAO following Board resolution 2020.B.6 (November 2020).

**2021.A.2b.** The Board approves the STAC recommended science time goals for semester 2022A of 95% on Gemini South and of 96% on Gemini North, and the adjustment of science time for semester 2021B to 83% for Gemini South and 90% for Gemini North.

**2021.A.3. NOIRLab Strategic Vision and Plan.** The Board wishes to thank the NOIRLab Director for presenting NOIRLab's exciting vision and plans. NOIRLab and the Gemini Board have already been successfully collaborating in defining NOIRLab's Strategic Vision, and the Board is now looking forward to the opportunity to contribute to drafting and reviewing NOIRLab's Five Year Renewal Proposal, due to NSF on December 17, 2021.

**2021.A.4. 2021 Gemini Science Meeting.** Due to the continuing difficulties in planning in-person events, the Board acknowledges the necessity of postponing the 2021 Gemini Science User Meeting to August 2022, and welcomes the Observatory plan to hold a virtual Gemini Science Meeting in August 2021. We continue to look forward to the meeting now planned for 2022.

**2021.A.5. AEON TAC process.** The Board thanks the Observatory and NOIRLab for their continued efforts towards the implementation of the AEON TAC process, expected to be operational in time for the 2022B semester. Under the Board's endorsed proposal, Gemini AEON time will continue to be awarded by the National TACs, while for the International Participants AEON time at non-Gemini facilities will be awarded by the NOIRLab TAC under AURA's "open-sky" policy.