

# LICK OBSERVATORY

Strategic Planning Committee  
Inaugural Meeting  
September 13, 2007

Lick Observatory Strategic Planning Committee  
September 2007

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# WELCOME AND THANKS!

- My highest level goal for the committee is to identify some compelling visions of the future for Lick Observatory
- We need to identify the strategic role of Lick Observatory in the UCO portfolio of facilities
- Would like to minimize discussion about tactics to achieve vision

# PLANNING THE FUTURE FROM THE FUTURE

- One common approach is to identify a vision of the Observatory in 15 years then work backward from that state to identify the necessary steps that need to be completed 12 years out and 9 years out etc to achieve the goal state
- Separate, but related, would like the committee's input on some specific policy issues

# COMMITTEE CHARGE

- The Lick Observatory Strategic Planning Committee (LOSP) committee will look at the short (five year) and longer term (twenty year) future of Lick Observatory on Mt. Hamilton, and make recommendations to the Director

# MAJOR AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION

- Research
- Time allocation
- Public outreach and education
- Personnel and renewal

# RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- What kinds of front-line research are possible on Mt. Hamilton with existing facilities, assuming minor upgrades?



# RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- What front-line research directions could be undertaken assuming significant new resources (~\$1M – \$15M)?



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# RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- What current instruments should be supported?



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# TIME ALLOCATION

- Recently the Shane has been only marginally over-subscribed
- Should UCO adopt polices to increase usage?

# INCREASE USE BY...

- Encouraging more use by graduate students?
- Favoring/encouraging long-term, observing-intensive programs?
- Increasing support for remote observing?
- Increasing opportunities for rapid time-response and targets of opportunity observing?
- Service observing?
- Selling time to other (non-UC) communities?
- Access to undergraduates?

# PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- Should UCO increase the public outreach program on Mt. Hamilton?
- If so, what steps should be taken?



# PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- If there is a major increase in public outreach and education, what resources are needed, and where do they come from?



# INFRASTRUCTURE

- What resources should UCO put into the infrastructure on Mt. Hamilton and what are the highest infrastructure priorities?



# PERSONNEL AND RENEWAL

- How do we make sure we can continue the long tradition of excellence on the mountain staff?
- What should the plan be for the next few years to ensure continuity and knowledge transfer within the mountain staff and at the Santa Cruz campus?

# PROCESS

- Through presentations by Burt and Maureen bring everyone to a common knowledge base about the current state of Lick Observatory
- Gather views of potential futures of Lick Observatory in “brainstorm” mode
  - Very general ideas
  - In the context of LOSPC questions
- Post meeting, collate/organize ideas and bring common themes to the group for meeting #2
- Anticipate total of 4 meetings over 9 months