

LOSPC

March 19, 2008

Survey Results

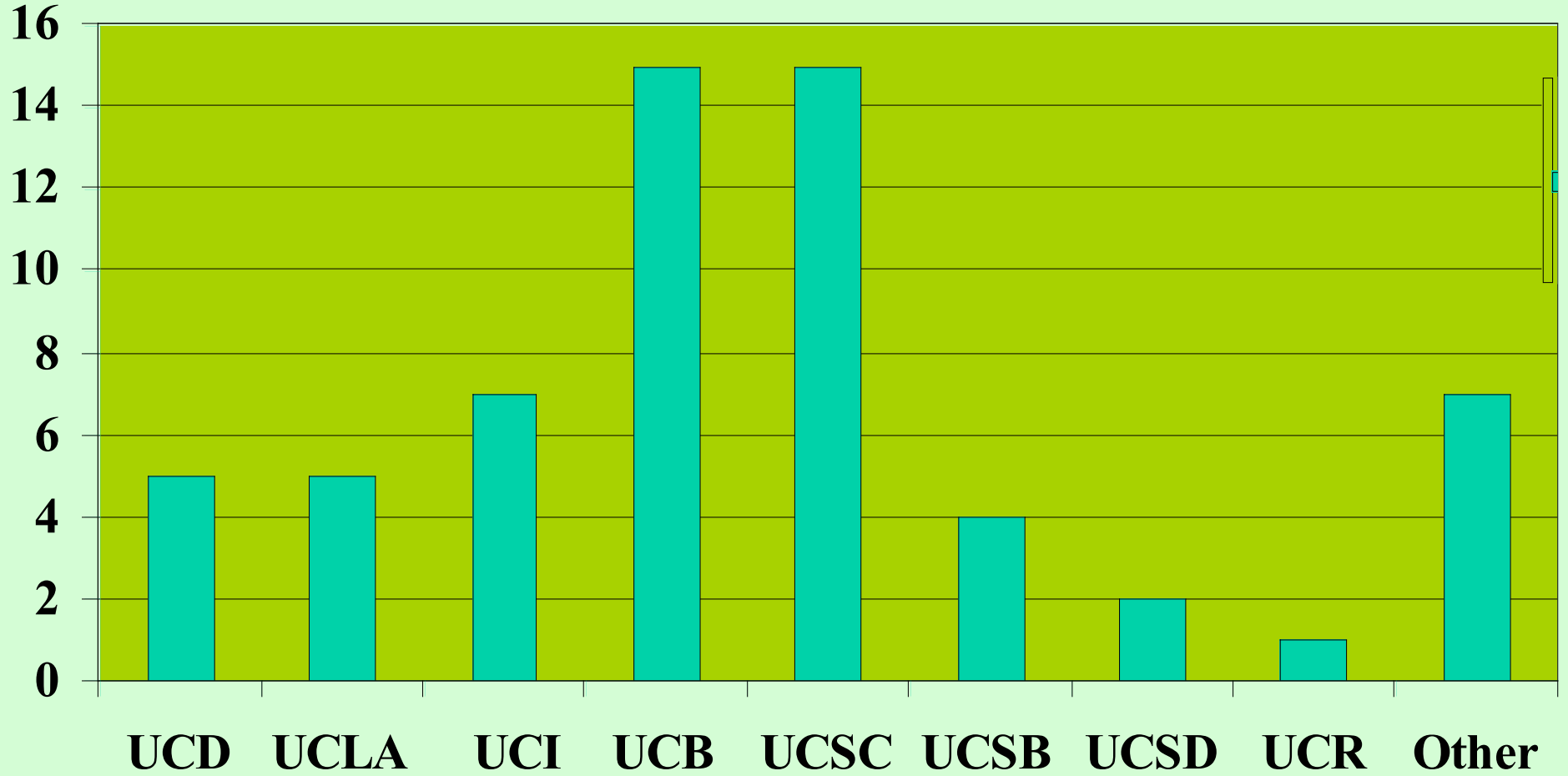
Survey sent to all Mt. Hamilton users

All Keck UC faculty users

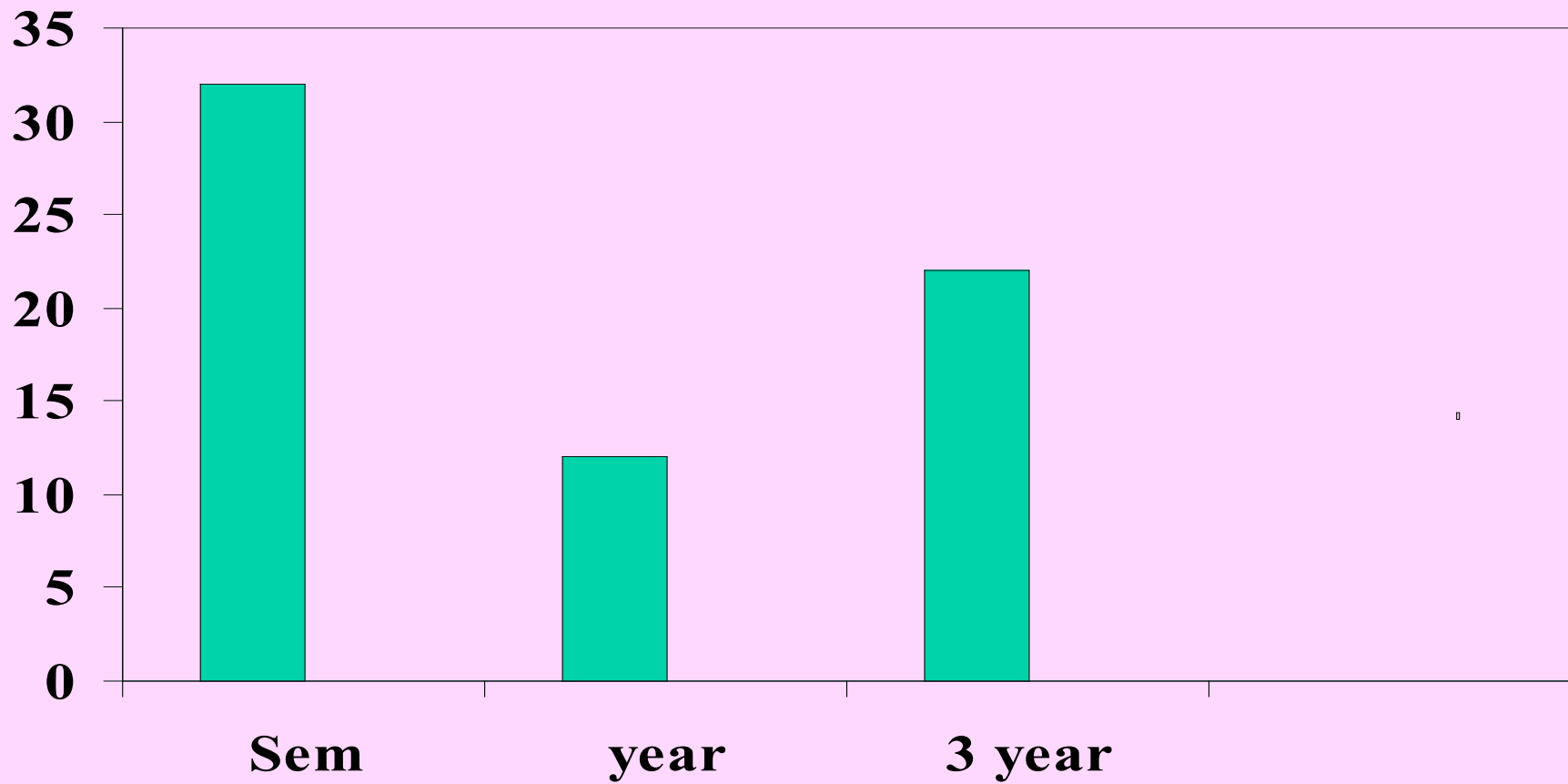
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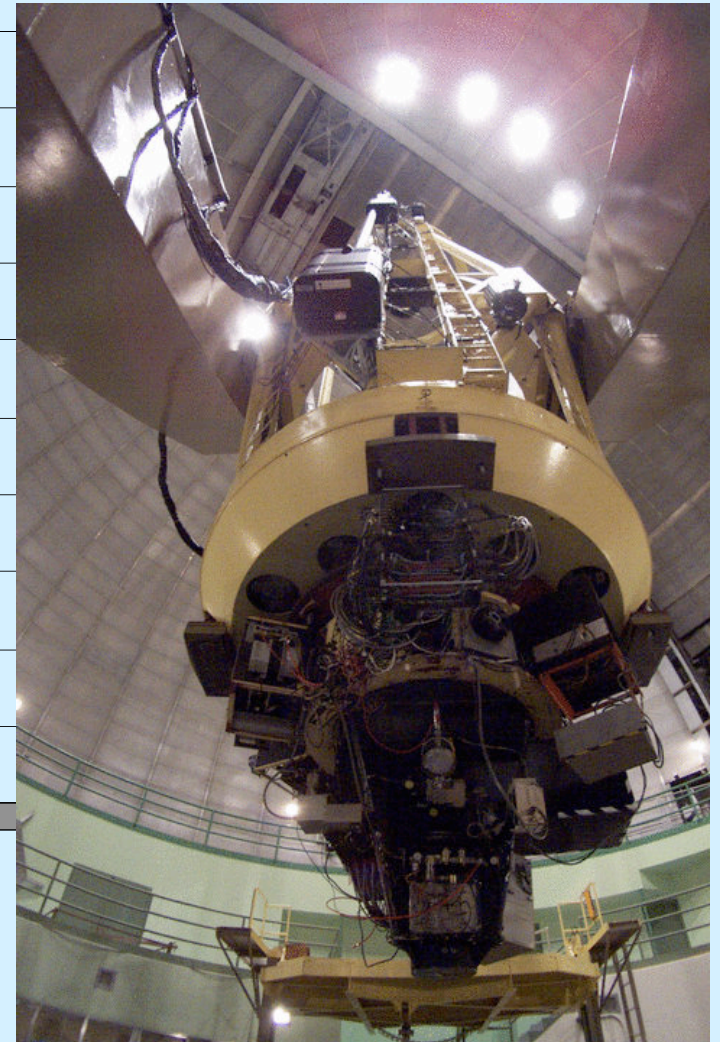
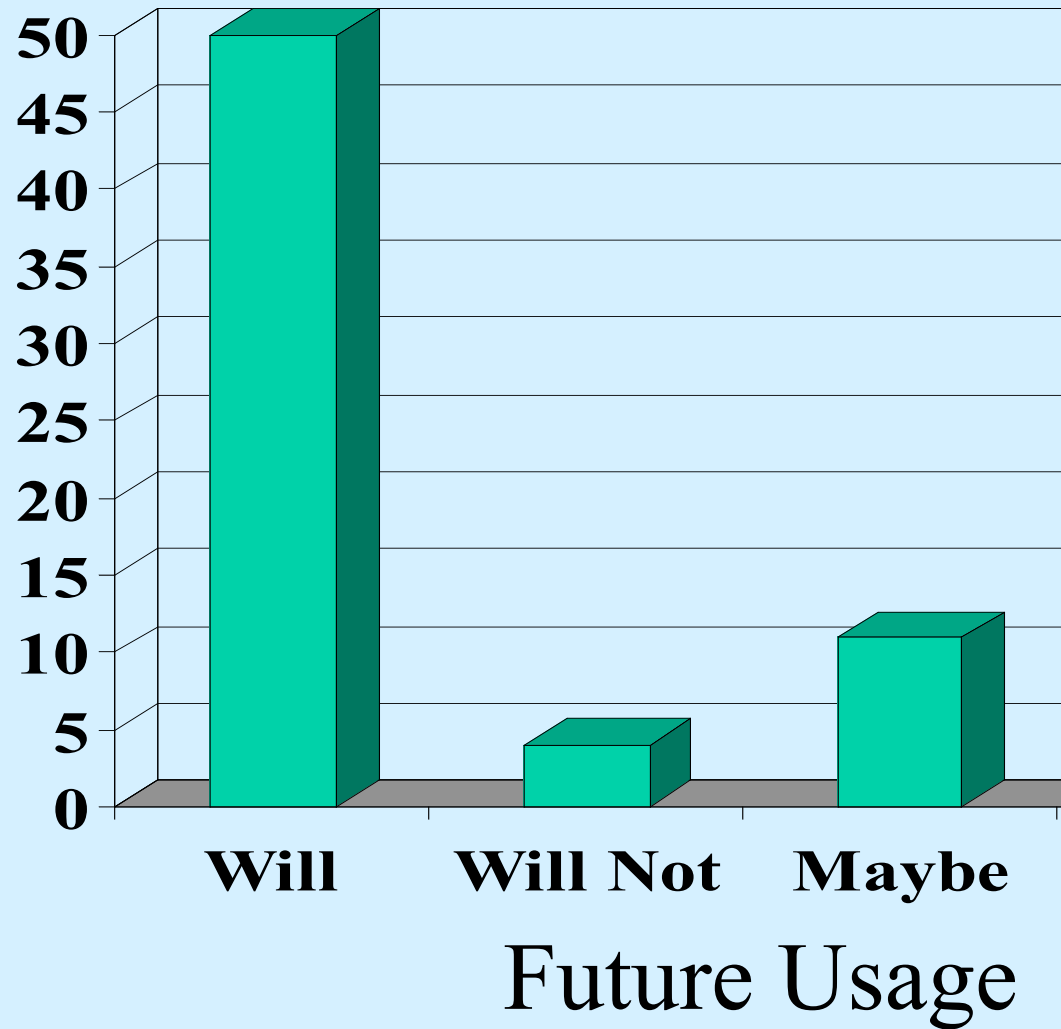
Response by Position



Response by Campus



Response by Usage



“I plan to use Mt. Hamilton Facilities in the Future”

Of the 15 who said they maybe would or would not use Mt. Hamilton facilities in the future :

5 would use the facilities if more instrumentation were available

6 would not

4 did not respond

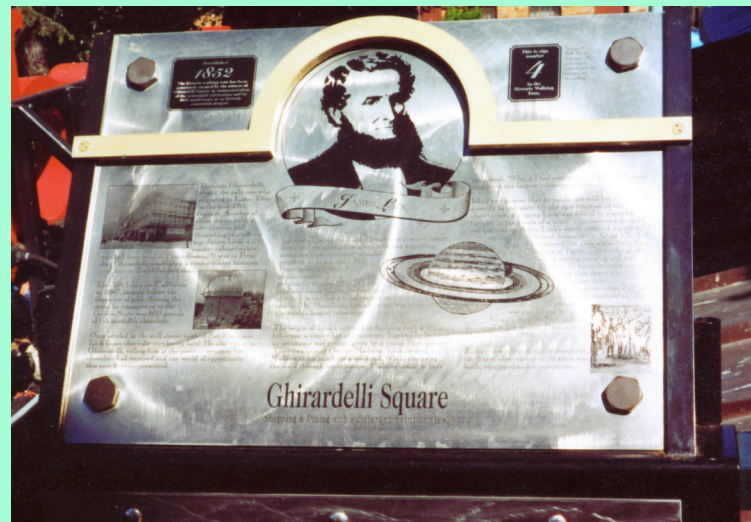


In my opinion, the current suite of instruments at Mt. Hamilton is appropriate

Yes 33 63%

No 19 37%

No response 14



New or improved capabilities for the 3m

(51 responses from 33 respondents)

New:

MOS 8

IR:

Imaging 9

Low Res 8

High Res 1

High Speed Phot. 1

Improved:

Hamilton 2

Kast 7

Guiding 1

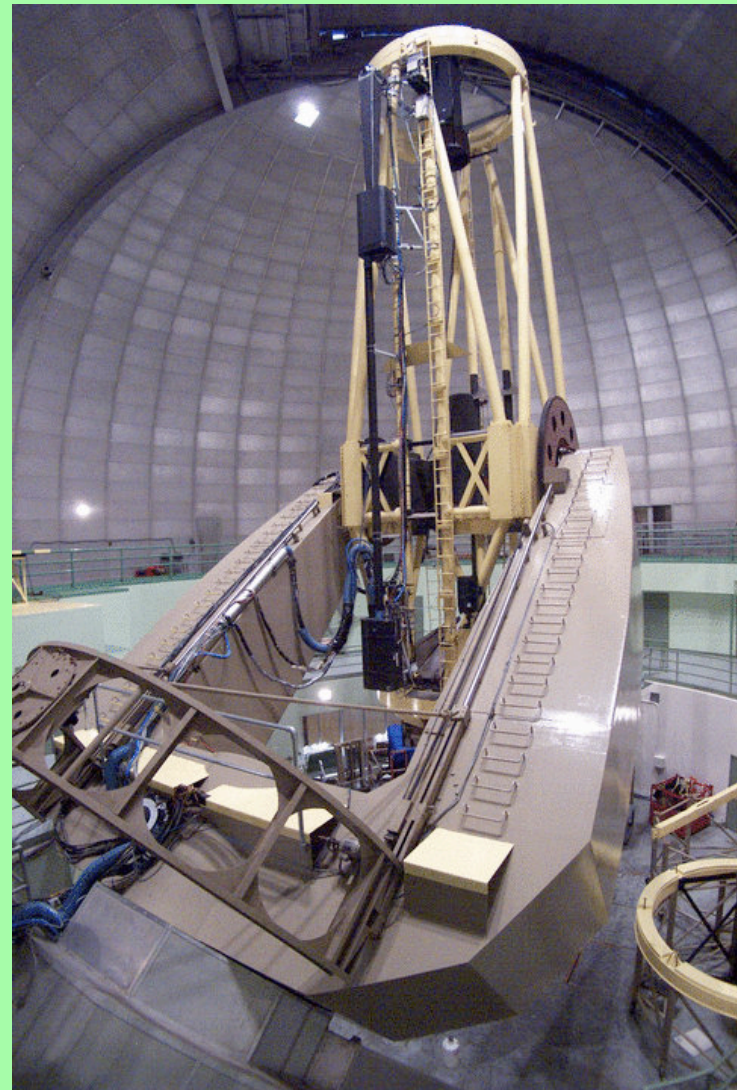
PF Cam 2

Remote 3

Queue 2

AO 4

Pointing 2



New or improved capabilities for the Nickel

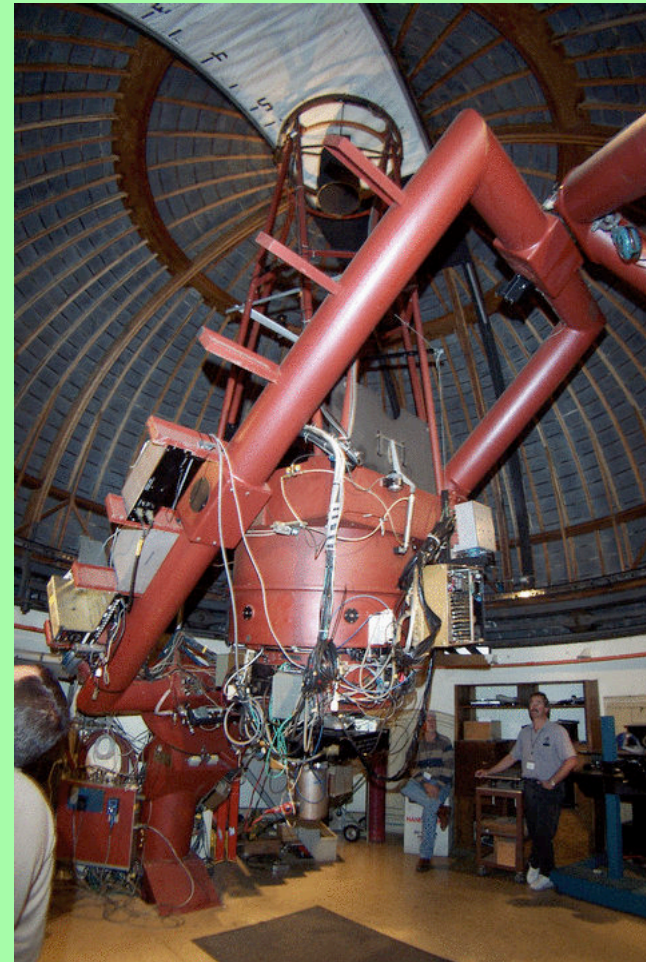
(14 responses from 10 respondents)

New:

WF Optical Imager	1
AO	1
IR Imager	4
Low Res. Spect	5
High Speed Phot.	1

Improved

Queue	1
Robotic	1



Who will build them?

12 responses, 6 of which were not me

Yes

Maybe, resources limited

Ircal Upgrade (coordinating, IRCAM transfer (coordinating)

NRO (design team) [no name]

Have designed and built imaging system for Crossley

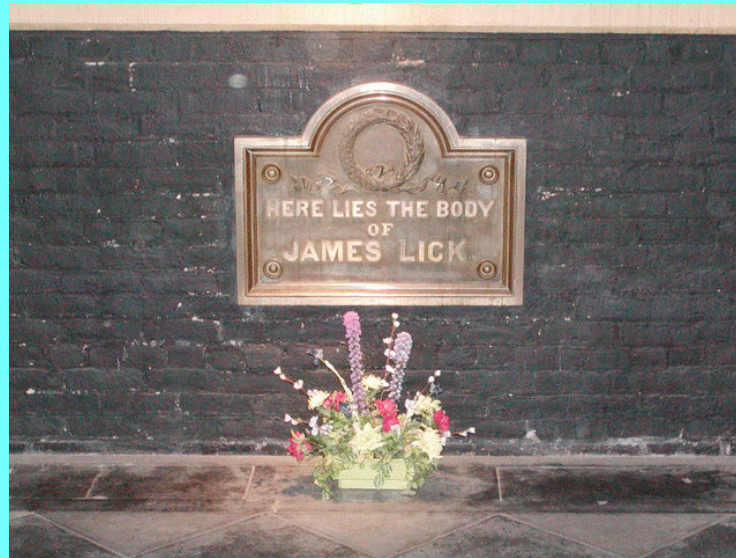
I am I interested in assisting and building any of these

Yes

In my opinion, the current support staff at Mt. Hamilton is adequate for my needs.

Yes	45	88%
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No	6	12%
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Nine Responses for needed additional support staff

Make it possible to schedule ALL AO nights requested

Queue scheduling (for Hamilton spectrometer, which is simple to use and has standard setup

The ROR for the 3m and (especially) the CAT is downright grimy and the cables draped along the floor are not optimal. The janitorial staff needs to do a better job. I appreciate the funding constraints for Lick, and I would be interested in making modest donations of my own money for (e.g.) new carpeting in the CAT ROR. I am also willing to spend a weekend day, helping with clean-up if that would be helpful! I love Lick Observatory!

Summer Interns to accelerate project, utilize facilities, and re-expand our scientific reach

More optics cleaning and maintenance either by on-site employees or more frequent visits by UCO/Lick optical shop personnel.

Current support staff would be adequate if KAST controller mechanisms were refurbished. In recent runs KAST has sucked up a lot of support staff time (and cost observing time), but it is clearly an important instrument

The existing observer's support is already extremely competent

Nine Responses for needed additional support staff

(continued)

There exists an astoundingly small amount of documentation on the throughput of existing 3m instruments. There is nothing on the web or in printed manual form that allows you to calculate throughput or needed exposure times. The default mode is to ask other observers to give you their data or zeropoints, but it takes weeks to email around to find just the right person, there's no guarantee that someone has used the instrument in the same way you want to use it. This hinders people from using the telescope more (especially graduate students and postdocs, and especially at campuses other than Santa Cruz). This really needs to be changed by putting data on the web or putting a S/N simulator tool on the web for others to use. This is so common at US national facilities. Why can't we have it at Lick???

it is difficult to get hold of the technical support at times. A more reliable communication mechanism should be in place to make sure the (remote) observers are helped when necessary.

On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the highest, what will be the value of Mt. Hamilton in the following areas over the next 15 years?

50 Responses

Grad Student Training	8.50
Post Doc PI	7.76
Test Bed	7.62
Forefront Rea.	6.53

Other (12 responses)	8.25
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Value Other Comments

1. Supporting programs for PI Keck and HST research
2. forefront research based on large surveys
3. time series and transient science
4. new smaller facilities with specialized goals
5. Undergraduate and Public Education
6. public fundraising
7. risky proposals not granted time at other telescopes,
'workhorse' telescopes for basic and important (but maybe
not forefront) research
9. APF exoplanet research
10. Large Projects
11. undergraduate student training
12. Public Outreach

Large Programs

Yes 46

No 3



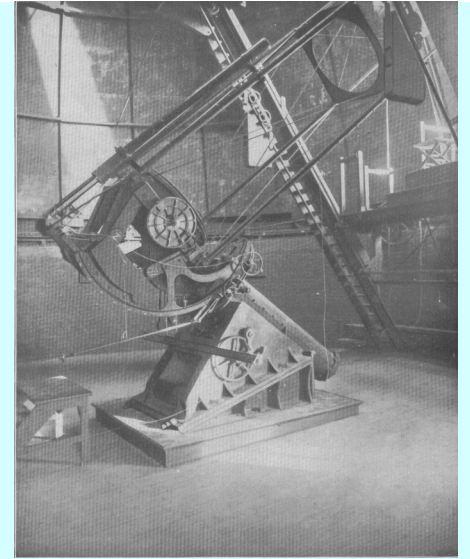
Percentage suggested ranged from 20% to 50-70%

(but with caveats, 23 comments)

Lick Unique

Large programs need to be
well justified

Telescope time needs to be
available for grad students
and Post Docs



Public Outreach and Education

Nickel for class use (48)	7.46
Updating Displays/Interactive (46)	7.30
Expanding SVP (39)	6.46
Selling nights on 36 in (44)	6.05
Expanding Concert (42)	5.81
Moving Nickel (45)	5.47
Other (6)	6.67

COMMENTS

1. Partnership with NASA/AMES and NASA, LBL, LLNL for outreach
2. Public outreach is an important and valuable role for Lick Observatory, but the Observatory should be a research facility with outreach as a secondary priority. In addition to public education, the public outreach efforts could provide grass roots support for the Observatory, which is important. I do strongly favor expanding the fund-raising efforts at Lick.
3. cafe for visitors
4. Friday Night Public Observing on the 36"/12"/Hire Full Time EPO Director
5. alliances with local high tech interested "friends" of Lick Fri
6. Tour guides who can take visitors into the 120" dome, pending the 120" observer's permission.

Other Comments

I believe that the report of the Lick oversight committee should be vetted by the UCOAC and should be circulated to the UC community for general comment and review. I do worry about an inordinate amount of funding going to AO at the expense of seeing limited IR and optical spectroscopy.

I see an exciting and dynamic future for Mount Hamilton, including more public outreach, extensive observing programs, and innovative instrument development and testing. These are things that our 3-m telescope, with its few scheduling constraints and proximity to brilliant engineers and scientists at UCSC, UCB, and the Bay Area in general is uniquely suited to.

I'm most interested in the idea of moving towards the use of the 3-m for large surveys

I feel the Lick facilities provide not only great training opportunities, but also great opportunities for frontier science. My thesis research takes advantage of something I cannot find anywhere else in the world: wide-field infrared imaging with coronagraphic capabilities using the GEMINI Dual-Channel imager. A large part of my thesis would not be possible without this capability



My Conclusion:

The future for Mt. Hamilton
Is bright

Let's not let this happen