

German Cycle 2 proposals and brief GSSWG report

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- Cycle 2 Call for Proposals (CfP2) date issued: May 16, 2013 **German Cycle 2 proposal process**
- Proposal submission deadline: June 29, 2013 (**22 proposals**)
- Amount of GO German community time available: ~42 hrs (50% of the total, the other 50% go to the German PI teams)
- Oversubscription factor (in time) < 2 (down from Cycle 1). Reasons why – ironically – include greater GREAT sensitivity!
- TAC Meeting at DSI Stuttgart on Sept 17/18 (chair: D. Lemke, 6 panel members; each proposal 1 primary & 2nd reviewers)
- TAC recommendations discussed between SMO Director and SMO deputy director & DSI director to settle any TAC issues
- TAC results notification letters sent to applicants: 31 Oct 2013 (available at DSI website)

- Because of the small oversubscription, most proposals (85%) were accepted and stand a good chance to be executed.
- 3 categories (A,B,C) of SMO accepted proposals (unlike US)

A = MUST DO, 6 proposals (13.5 hrs)

B = SHOULD DO, 6 proposals (21.6 hrs)


C = DO IF TIME, 6 proposals (9.3 hrs)

D = FILLER, 1 proposal

DON'T DO, 3 proposals (two of which were unschedulable)

Of the accepted proposals the vast majority is for GREAT (11),

2 for FLIPO, 1 for FLITECAM, 1 for FORCAST, 2 for FIFI-LS₃
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- Olympic voting works, but best German grades systematically lower than those in the US (both grades range from 5 to 1) **process**
- TAC grades don't always match with TAC written comments
- Mapping numerical grades into Observatory categories: DSI found it useful to have 3 accepted proposal categories but which fraction of the accepted proposals in which category is worth discussing (in particular which fraction = MUST DO ?)
- SMO had to reject two meritorious proposals (comet ISON and TNO proposal), as they turned out to be impossible to schedule
- Outreach sometimes mentioned in a proposal, sometimes not
- Difficulty for German queue to do technical evaluation in August (summer holiday period)  German TAC always later than US

Questions to the SUG (advice)

- What would be considered an acceptable flight success rate? 90% ? (that is, is 1 lost flight out of 10 on average acceptable)
- SMO suggestion to carry over lost MUST DO proposals. Yes?
- SMO suggestion to shift cycle from Jan–Dec to March–Feb ? If so, should we keep the proposal deadline (now end of June)?
- Should outreach component in a proposal be a TAC criterion?

- Brief report from the last GSSWG Meeting**
- Participants: Stutzki (chair), Colditz, Eislöffel, Graf, Guesten, Krabbe (DSI) Himmes (DLR), Lilienthal (DLR), Zinnecker (SMO)
 - Topics discussed (a somewhat biased selection of the agenda)
 - DLR/DSI contract till 12/2016 (signed that very day of Sept 10)
 - May 2013 observing schedule before HMV (G.C. time, GREAT)
 - Germany borrowing 4 extra flights from US in Cycle 2 (10^W14)
 - SOFIA presentation at 2014 Feb 5 DLR “Programmausschuss”
 - SOFIA winterschool in Cologne Feb 10–14, 2014 (web, poster)
 - Herschel conf. Oct 15–18, 2013 ESA; ISM–SPP Oct 21–15 MPE
 - 7 LMC/SMC GREAT science projects during deployment

End