National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# Astrophysics

# NASA Headquarters Updates









**ExoPAG #16** NASA Ames Research Center June 18, 2017 Martin Still ExoPAG Executive Secretary Astrophysics Division Science Mission Directorate Martin.Still@nasa.gov

www.nasa.gov

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## 1. ExoPAG Status

## **Exoplanet Program Analysis Group**



- The ExoPAG enables direct regular communication between NASA and the community, and within the community, through public meetings that give the community opportunities to provide its scientific and programmatic input
  - The full ExoPAG consists of all members of the community who participate in these open meetings
  - The ExoPAG Chair and the ExoPAG Executive Committee (EC) are appointed members whose responsibilities include organizing meetings and collecting and summarizing community input with subsequent reporting to the Astrophysics Division Director

### • The ExoPAG may be tasked to carry out the following:

- Articulate and prioritize the key scientific drivers for Exoplanet Exploration research;
- Evaluate the expected capabilities of potential ExEP missions for achieving the science goal of the program
- Evaluate ExEP goals, objectives, investigations and required measurements on the basis of the widest possible community outreach;
- Articulate and prioritize focus areas for needed mission technologies; and
- Provide findings on related activities such as ground-based observing, theory and modeling programs, laboratory astrophysics, suborbital investigations, data archiving and community engagement.

## The ExoPAG Executive Committee (EC)



- The ExoPAG Chair is a member of the NASA Astrophysics Advisory Committee
- EC members are selected to reflect the broad range of scientific disciplines and interests represented in exoplanet exploration
- New EC members are selected by the Astrophysics Division Director annually

## **ExoPAG Executive Committee**



Name	Home	Year
Alan Boss (chair)	Carnegie Institution	3/3
Daniel Apai	Arizona	3/3
David Ciardi	NExScl	3/3
Shawn Domagal-Goldman	NASA GSFC	3/3
Tiffany Glassman	Northrop Grumman	2/3
Dimitri Mawet	Caltech/JPL	2/3
Tyler Robinson	UC Santa Cruz	2/3
Eliza Kempton	Grinnell College	1/3
Michael Meyer	Michigan	1/3
Johanna Teske	Carnegie Institution	1/3
Chris Stark	STScl	1/3

Members Rus Belikov, Maggie Turnbull, and Lucianne Walkowicz rolled off the EC in 2017 Future Call for Nominations: https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/exopag Deadline: Jan 2018

# Science Analysis Group Status https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/exopag/sag





Delivered	SAG	Title	Lead
2015	8	Requirements and Limits of Future Precision Radial Velocity Measurements	Latham, Plavchan
2015	9	Exoplanet Probe to Medium Scale Direct-Imaging Mission Requirements and Characteristics	Soummer
2015	10	Characterizing the Atmospheres of Transiting Planets with JWST and Beyond	Cowan
2014	11	Preparing for the WFIRST Microlensing Survey	Yee
2017	12	Scientific potential and feasibility of high-precision astrometry for exoplanet detection and characterization	Bendek
	13	Exoplanet Occurrence Rates and Distributions	Belikov
	14	Characterization of Stars Targeted for NASA Exoplanet Missions	Stassun
	15	Exploring Other Worlds: Observational Constraints and Science Questions for Direct Imaging Exoplanet Missions	Apai
	16	Exoplanet biosignatures	Domagal- Goldman
	17	Community Resources Needed for K2 and TESS Planetary Candidate Confirmation	Ciardi
	18	Metrics for Direct-Imaging with Starshades	Glassman, Turnbull
	19	Exoplanet Imaging Signal Detection Theory and Rigorous Contrast Metrics	Mawet, Jensen-Clem

## Why is the ExoPAG here at the Kepler/K2 Science Meeting?



## Afternoon Exoplanet Occurrence Rates and Direct Imaging Yields Panels

		Rus Belikov (chairing), Chris Burke, BJ Fulton, Susan Thompson, Jessie
2:30 PM	Occurrence Rate Panel	Christiansen, Erik Petigura, Eric Ford
3:30 PM	Break	
		Rus Belikov (chairing), Chris Stark, Rhonda
		Morgan, Shawn Domagal-Goldman, Ty
4:00 PM	Large Mission Yield Panel	Robinson, Mark Marley



## 2. Budget Status

## FY17 Consolidated Appropriations Bill (H.R. 244)



	FY 2017 Request	FY 2017 Omnibus Conference	Change from FY2016 Enacted	Change from FY2017 Request
NASA TOTAL	19,025.1	19,653.3	368.3	628.2
Science	5,600.5	5,764.9	175.5	164.4
Earth Science	2,032.2	1,921.0	0.0	-111.2
Planetary	1,518.7	1,846.0	215.0	327.3
Europa	49.6	275.0	100.0	225.4
Astrophysics	781.5	750.0	-17.6	-31.5
STEM Activation <sup>1</sup>	25.0	37.0	0.0	12.0
JWST	569.4	569.4	-50.6	0.0
Heliophysics	698.7	678.5	28.7	-20.2

Note 1: \$37.0M for STEM Activation is to be derived equally from Planetary Science and Astrophysics, and continue to be administered by Astrophysics.

## FY17 Consolidated Appropriations Bill (H.R. 244)



 Up to \$47.4M reduction to "Rest of Astrophysics" (Astrophysics excluding Webb, WFIRST, SOFIA, Hubble) relative to FY17 request; 11% reduction with 4 months remaining in FY17

## **FY18 President's Budget Request**



- Supports an SMD-wide CubeSat/SmallSat initiative that uses smaller, less expensive satellites to advance science in a cost-effective manner.
- Reflects more efficient operations of the Hubble Space Telescope, without impact to science.
- Reflects efficiencies realized by the SOFIA in the past few years. SOFIA will participate in the 2019 Astrophysics Senior Review.





## 3. Current Missions Status



## **Astrophysics Missions in Operation**

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![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

	Phase	2017 GO	Notes
Hubble	Extended	Yes	
Chandra	Extended	Yes	
XMM-Newton (ESA)	Extended	Yes	
Spitzer	Extended	Yes	EOM in 2019
Swift	Extended	Yes	
Fermi	Extended	Yes	
Kepler	Extended	Yes	EOM in ~2019
NuSTAR	Extended	Yes	
SOFIA	Prime	Yes	
LISA Pathfinder (ESA)	Extended		EOM in 2017
NICER	Checkout		Science in July

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## 4. Future Missions Status

## Astrophysics Missions in Development

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **TESS** Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite

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![](_page_18_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### **CURRENT STATUS:**

- Both instrument and spacecraft bus completion are planned for late-June early July 2017.
- Observatory integration beginning in mid-Summer 2017 with completion by the end of fall 2017.
- All four flight cameras are assembled and now in testing.

#### SCHEDULE:

- mid-Summer thru Fall 2017 Observatory integration and test
- Summer 2017 SIR & KDP-D
- January 2018 Delivery to KSC payload processing facility.
- March 2018 Launch readiness date from Cape Canaveral FL.

#### Medium Explorer (MIDEX) Mission

PI: G. Ricker (MIT)

**Mission**: All-Sky photometric exoplanet mapping mission.

**Science goal:** Search for transiting exoplanets around the nearby, bright stars.

**Instruments**: Four wide field of view (24x24 degrees) CCD cameras with overlapping field of view, operating in the Visible-IR spectrum (0.6-1 micron).

**Operations**: NLT June 2018 launch with a 3year prime mission including 2 years of spacecraft operations and an additional 1 year ground-based observations and analysis. High-Earth elliptical orbit (17 x 58.7 Earth radii).

http://tess.gsfc.nasa.gov/

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![](_page_18_Picture_21.jpeg)

### Webb James Webb Space Telescope

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#### **RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Completed spacecraft bus assembly
- Completed ambient testing of combined telescope and instruments
- Shipped science payload to JSC for endto-end testing
- Issued calls for Early Release Science Notices of Intent

#### 2017 Plans:

- Integrate spacecraft and sunshield
- Cryo-vacuum testing of the science payload at JSC
- Flight operations rehearsals and training

#### http://jwst.nasa.gov/

Webb remains on track for an October 2018 launch

#### Large Infrared Space Observatory

Top priority of 2000 Decadal Survey

**Science themes**: First Light; Assembly of Galaxies; Birth of Stars and Planetary Systems; Planetary Systems and the Origins of Life

**Mission:** 6.5m deployable, segmented telescope at L2, passively cooled to <50K behind a large, deployable sunshield

**Instruments**: Near IR Camera, Near IR Spectrograph, Mid IR Instrument, Near IR Imager and Slitless Spectrograph

**Operations**: 2018 launch for a 5-year prime mission

Partners: ESA, CSA

# **OTIS (Telescope + Instruments)**

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# OTIS @ JSC

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# SPACECRAFT

- Spacecraft and sunshield integration underway
- All components delivered except deployable radiator shields and actuators (not planned for delivery yet anyway)

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Second sunshield mid-boom installation

![](_page_22_Picture_6.jpeg)

UPS ready for installation onto spacecraft

## WFIRST Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope

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#### **CURRENT STATUS:**

- Successfully completed three-year technology demonstration activities on WFIRST's two critical mission technologies (near infrared detectors and coronagraph technologies)
- Completed industry formulation studies on Wide Field Instrument Optomechanical Assembly
- Conducting WFIRST Independent External Technical/Cost/Management Review (WIETR) in response to findings and recommendations in National Academies' Midterm Assessment
  - NASA is managing WFIRST with major emphasis on cost control
  - WFIRST will proceed to SRR/MDR and KDP-B after responding to WIETR recommendations
- WFIRST does not have a starshade; but NASA is studying a starshade for the next Decadal Survey's consideration.
  - Starshade compatibility is being studied during Phase A; mandated minimum impact on WFIRST.
  - NASA will decide by fall 2017 whether to maintain starshade compatibility.
- Jeff Kruk is new Project Scientist following loss of Neil Gehrels

#### Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope

Top priority of 2010 Decadal Survey

**Science themes**: Dark Energy, Exoplanets, Large Area Near Infrared Surveys

**Mission:** 2.4m widefield telescope at L2; using existing hardware, images 0.28deg<sup>2</sup> at 0.8-2µm

Instruments (design reference mission): Wide Field Instrument (camera plus IFU), Coronagraph Instrument (imaging/IFS) Phase: Currently in Formulation (Phase A)

#### https://wfirst.gsfc.nasa.gov/

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- WFIRST is the highest priority large space mission from the 2010 Decadal Survey in Astronomy and Astrophysics
  - The 2016 Astrophysics Midterm Assessment recognized the continued compelling science value of WFIRST.
  - After several years of mission concept studies and technology investments, NASA began formulation of WFIRST in 2016
- Two National Academies studies have recommended that NASA conduct an independent technical/management/cost (TMC) review of WFIRST before beginning Phase B and before proceeding to the Preliminary Design review
  - Both reports expressed concern that mission cost growth could endanger the balance of NASA's astrophysics program and the alignment of its scientific priorities with those put forward by the Decadal Survey.
  - The studies are the 2014 WFIRST/AFTA study (F. Harrison et al.) and the 2016 Astrophysics Midterm Assessment (J. Hewitt et al.)
- NASA is implementing these recommendations and establishing the WFIRST Independent External TMC Review (WIETR)
  - The Review will begin as soon as the panel members are identified
    - Once begun, the review should take  $\sim 2$  months
    - The WFIRST System Requirements Review (SRR) / Mission Design Review (MDR), planned for Summer 2017, and beginning of Phase B, planned for Fall 2017, will be deferred until after the WIETR so that any findings and recommendations can be incorporated into the WFIRST project plan

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## 5. Decadal Studies Status

### **Large Mission Concepts - Science**

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## **Astrophysics Probes**

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- In August 2016, NASA issued a solicitation requesting proposals for mission concept studies for medium-size missions (Probes)
  - 27 proposals were received on November 15, 2016, spanning a broad range of science disciplines
- The proposals were evaluated by peer review
  - Reviewers evaluated the proposals based on intrinsic science merit, relevance to NASA, value of the study in the context of other studies, and likelihood that the mission concept is Probe-class (<\$1B).</li>
  - Each panel was requested to provide general guidelines on how to assemble the Probes portfolio.
  - Panels recommended proposal selection spanning a broad range of science disciplines and mission concepts.
- NASA has selected 10 proposals for mission concept studies involving a PI-led science team and NASA mission design labs at JPL and Goddard.
  - An independent cost assessment of the resulting mission concepts will be conducted by NASA
- The results of the mission concept studies will be provided by NASA to the 2020 Decadal Committee for their consideration

## **Selected Probe Mission Concept Studies**

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

PI	Affiliation	Short title
Jordan Camp	NASA GSFC	Transient Astrophysics Probe
Asantha Cooray	Univ. California, Irvine	Cosmic Dawn Intensity Mapper
Bill Danchi	NASA GSFC	Cosmic Evolution through UV Spectroscopy Probe
Jason Glenn	Univ. of Colorado	Galaxy Evolution Probe
Shaul Hanany	Univ. of Minnesota	Inflation Probe
Richard Mushotzky	Univ. of Maryland	High Spatial Resolution X-ray Probe
Angela Olinto	Univ. of Chicago	Multi-Messenger Astrophysics Probe
Peter Plavchan *	Missouri State Univ.	Precise Radial Velocity Observatory
Paul Ray	Naval Research Lab	X-ray Timing and Spectroscopy Probe
Sara Seager *	MIT	Starshade Rendezvous Mission

\* Partial Selections

The Selection Document and Probes Implementation Plan are posted at https://science.nasa.gov/astrophysics/2020-decadal-survey-planning

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# **Backup Slides**