

GLAST SWG Telecon 7/25/2002

Attended:

David Band	Giselher Lichti
Guido Barbiellini	Chip Meegan
Liz Citrin	Peter Michelson
Lynn Cominsky	Jonathan Ormes
Chuck Dermer	Steve Ritz
Brenda Dingus	David Thompson
Neil Gehrels	Stephen Thorsett
Neil Johnson	Kathy Turner
Lou Kaluziński	
Don Kniffen	

Guest:

Norman Rioux

Welcome and opening remarks by Neil Gehrels who chaired the meeting for Jonathan. Jonathan was involved with the visit of Dr. John Marburger, Science Advisor to President Bush.

Lynn Cominsky – EPO (Lynn had to leave early so she reported first.)

- Education Ambassadors training was held last week: 5 ambassadors, 3 SEU representatives and 2 GLAST alternates, who have now become Swift Ambassadors.. They were taught and worked on educational programs. These are posted on the GLAST website. A report/evaluation of the week is being written. A local TV station also came. This is also posted on the website.
- Looking for volunteers to review the activities from a science viewpoint. Chuck Dermer volunteered.
- WestEd also attended. Gave a pre-test prior to the weeks activities, and given the same test after the conclusion of the week. Also evaluated each activity that was tested by the Ambassadors. WestEd is evaluating the training.
- PBS show – met with Tom Lucas. To produce a 2 hour show, \$1.5 million is needed. Nova will fund \$500,000, GLAST \$250,000 and a proposal to NSF is being submitted for the balance. Neil suggested that funding might be available from the GLAST spacecraft contractor when a vendor is selected.
- GLAST telescope network – Gordon Spear attended meeting in Hawaii and gave a report. The Swift high school teacher also attended the meeting. Gordon was signing up partners. Jonathan said that West Virginia wants to join the network. The information is on the website: <http://glast.sonoma.edu/gtn>
- GLAST/Swift booth is being sent to the California Science Teachers meeting.

Don Kniffen – HQ

- Don will be at GSFC for the next 3 months. Will be back at HQ in November. Lou Kaluziński and Paul Hertz will share his responsibilities. Steve Horowitz will handle the agreements.
- CNES agreement just came in this morning. It has started up the signing chain. It might be in place very soon.
- Is concerned with the ASI agreement. Our agreement is at ASI for signatures. ASI will not sign until ASI has a budget profile of the mission; may not sign the agreement until 2003. Guido stated the ASI has given more than \$1 million for GLAST. Every program is having the same problem with ASI.
- The status of AGILE – it has been approved; conducting a study with Russian launch. The launch is scheduled for 2004.
- Giselher inquired about DLR signed agreement – We received the agreement from the Germans already signed. It's probably in Diane Rauch's office waiting to be signed. A copy of the signed agreement will be faxed to Chip.

Kathy Turner – DOE

- The D.O.E. Critical Decision 2 (CD) baseline review will take place next week. Last week the CD 1 internal review was held, a milestone; a successful review. Now there is Critical Decision 1 approval, pending final signatures. DOE has been working closely with the project teams and are confident that they will pass the review next week.
- Cost increase – DOE/NASA decided the need for more funding and has been approved. It's on its way up the chain for approval.
- Peter Rosen met with Anne Kinney at NASA - discussed current and future joint projects – was a successful and cooperative meeting.

Peter Michelson – LAT

- Since the review in January, the LAT team has been addressing issues and getting ready for the Delta PDR next week.

- International agreements for LAT with French, Italian, Swedish, Japanese.

France: re-base lined with the French. On March 5, stated they had no money, but CNES remained in GLAST. Have been working on agreements. Signed NRL-SLAC-France pending agreement with CEA. Negotiations continue and hoping for signed agreements next month. CNES/NASA pending – waiting for signatures at HQ then will transmit to CNES. Spending has been authorized by CNES even though the agreement has not been signed.

Italian: ASI has released 2002 money for the LAT - \$1.8 million and for Malindi - \$1.25 million. INFN/ASI/SLAC received \$1.2 million this year. Strong support from INFN and they are pleased that ASI released money for 2002.

Comments from Foreign Partners:

Italy: Guido –

-ASI is in severe financial problems.

Germany: Giselher –

-International agreement has been signed by DLR about 3 weeks ago and was sent to NASA HQ.

-Because of financial problems, can't begin Phase C until January, but were able to extend Phase B until the end of the year.

-Found technical problem (crystals) - will investigate and will find out what happened and how to correct it. Design problem or window? – manufacturing problem, the way it was made. Giselher will visit the manufacturer when he comes to the US in September.

Liz Citrin – Project Manager

- No spacecraft contractor yet. Have received proposals from 3 vendors; evaluating for a month now, there is a competition and may need to go back to the vendors. Should not add more than a couple weeks to the process. Hope to have the selection made by the end of August. Liz's group will not do the selection, just the recommendation. The delay is due to the delayed release of the RFO. Giselher stated that the delay is causing some complications with the Germans.

- Have been doing technical work on the downlink. Nominal 10 megahertz per second bandwidth – looking for waiver. 10 megahertz requires more ground passes 10-12 passes per day. Asking for 20 megahertz waiver. Looking into other options.

Chip Meegan – GBM

- Have received a breadboard of the Data Processing Unit (DPU) from Southwest Research Institute. The performance is satisfactory but we are working on a noise problem near threshold. (Since the telecon, the noise problem has been solved).

- Awaiting shipment of a breadboard crystal assembly from MPE. Importing would be simplified if we had a copy of the International LOA, signed by DLR. (Since the telecon, shipping problems have been solved.)

- Burst Working Group - awaiting actions on the LAT team to provide details on what real-time information is needed from the GBM, particularly regarding finding times of peaks. Have agreement on the requirements for the re-point request. Still need to work out an agreement on apportioning the TDRSS real-time link, since both the LAT and the GBM may request transmission of burst data.

David Band – SSC

- Have been working with the LAT to define science tools. Hope to have requirements completed in September. SSC is involved in writing these requirements.

- New scientists started this past month.

- Jim Chiang – SSC “Ambassador,” started at Stanford. Valerie Connaughton will be the “Ambassador” at Huntsville. She is in the transitional phase – wrapping up GRO and starting with GLAST.

Neil Gehrels – PR

- Tri-fold brochure is coming out soon. Has had comments from DOE, HQ and the instruments.
- Working with Lynn Cominsky and science writer Chris Wanjek in preparing a 10-page brochure.
- Major LAT meeting will be taking place at GSFC the week of October 21, 2002.

SWG Meeting – next face-to-face in Huntsville – Chip Meegan:

- All the speakers are lined up and waiting for final title of their talk. Guido asked to be added to the schedule.
- August 13 is the cut-off date for hotel registrations at the Bevill Center under the block.
- Registration fee not yet determined. Chip and Sandy to talk off-line regarding registration, fees, reminders, etc.

Brenda Dingus announced:

"The Universe Viewed in Gamma-Rays" in Kashiwa, Chiba, Japan on 25-28 September 2002 with abstracts due August 1. The web page is <http://icrhp9.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/Symp2002.html>

ACTION items report:

1. Neil – working group list: The list was e-mailed to everyone before the telecon. The GRB working groups need to be clarified. Additions/Deletions/Clarifications are need. Will continue to work on the list.
2. Don Kniffen – data rights of guest investigators: Don has discussed this with Paul Hertz and he suggested that the right way to approach this is to address it in the Data Management Plan. Paul's thoughts are that the Data rights should be discussed by the SWG. Don disagrees because the SWG has a vested interest. PDMP should be approved before the NAR in January 2003. Maybe that portion of the PDMP should be frozen and Don and David Band work on it while Don is at GSFC.

Chip suggested that the list of action items should be sent out prior to the telecons. Will start with the next telecon.

Adjourned at 1:00 PM.

(7/29/02; updated: 8/13/02)