

## GLAST SWG Telecon Minutes – December 18, 2003

Attended:

David Band

Elliott Bloom

Lynn Cominsky

Chuck Dermer

Neil Gehrels

Isabelle Grenier

Don Kniffen

Giselher Lichti

Chip Meegan

Peter Michelson

Jonathan Ormes

Martin Pohl

Steve Ritz

Dave Thompson

Steve Thorsett

Kathy Turner

Al Vernacchio

Jonathan welcomed all and made the announcement that he is stepping down as GLAST Project Scientist. Steve Ritz is now the Project Scientist. Jonathan will continue on the SWG as an ex-officio member.

Steve thanked Jonathan for all his work and stated that things will continue in the same spirit and tone started by Jonathan.

Steve reviewed the agenda.

### Don Kniffen – NASA HQ

Confirmation Review at HQ - Steve gave a science presentation that went across very well.

There is a continuing resolution until the end of January. If the budget is not signed at that time, there will be another continuing resolution. No new initiatives if the budget doesn't pass – no ear marks.

Don announced that Steve Horwitz will be leaving HQ, January 9<sup>th</sup>, for a year as a new program science executive working at GSFC on the GPM project.

GLAST User's Committee Meeting – At the meeting plans were laid out by David Band and were well accepted. The committee was impressed with all the work done so far on the Guest Investigator program. \*\*NEXT AGENDA – funding for Guest Investigation needs to be discussed.

Will be adding additional people to the Committee. Will talk to Steve R. about it. The Committee is a bit light on particle physics side. The Committee's charge is mainly users of the data.

### Kathy Turner – D.O.E.

The FY04 budget has been passed and signed but may still have to take a % of reduction.

GLAST Project money is secure.

Lehman review of LAT, March 30 - Apr 1.

### Al Vernacchio – Project Status

Confirmation Review – Kevin and Steve did a fine job. Confirmation agreement is signed at HQ and GLAST is now officially in Phase C.

Launch date is February 28, 2007.

It was suggested that the LAT name be changed. This is the PI's prerogative.

Propulsion system item is closed. GLAST is on the border with the new guidelines. The propulsion system will remain in the design.

K-U Band implementation. Is increasing data volume to 1.2 Mbps for the LAT. Factor of 4 increase. Will not be using the X-band at Malindi, but using TDRSS.

Spacecraft issues – independent safe mode processor and concern about RAD750 processor.

The spacecraft CDR is scheduled for late Spring, probably April.

MOC – PDR is close to completion. Mike Rackley is leaving so a new lead is needed.

### Chip Meegan and Giselher Lichti - GBM

The CDR at MPE went well. It was a good problem solving CDR.

In Huntsville lots of testing going on. Still working on the thermal design of the detectors.

The GBM system CDR hasn't been scheduled, possibly June or July. Would like it after they have had a chance to do some checking out. But it needs to be scheduled and done prior to the Mission CDR in the Spring.

Giselher also commented on the successful CDR. Funding from MPE is still the same. Need test on the power box. It's working successfully on INTEGRAL, but still need verification on the power box.

a. Service Problems: The PMT's didn't survive shock test, but have been working on them since the CDR and now have passed the shock test.

b. Delivery for the flight detector modules is January '05.

c. Mass Growth issue

Steve stated GBM and LAT need spacecraft models for event simulations. GSFC will make sure the spacecraft model is ITAR sanitized yet accurate enough for the needs of the simulations.

### Peter Michelson - LAT

a. Flight software had a GSFC "Quick look review" about a month ago, plan to add additional people.

b. Hardware development: Calorimeter is on track and processing nicely.. Tracker has a couple issues. The mechanical structure issue resolved, but the interface to the GRID still is being worked on.

There is an important tracker meeting in Pisa, Italy on January 13-14, 2004 to iron out production and communication issues.

c. The ACD is coming along well Dave Thompson reported. There were some mechanical design issues but they are being resolved. One photo tube failed, and don't know yet why. Still working on it.

d. Ground analysis software, data challenge providing alpha testing of software, good participation; closeout in Feb. and then will continue with several other data challenges. Don stated that the User's Committee showed interest in participating in future data challenges. This way can learn what works and what doesn't. Will do a hands on at a future User's meeting. The Committee will verify that the machinery works and does it do what is expected.

### News from Europe and Japan:

France: Isabelle has been at SLAC so has no detailed report. But the LOA is with the lawyers, has passed one – DSM fundamental research – level already.

MOA is going back to prior wording; doesn't anticipate any problems

Italy: no report.

Japan: no report.

### IDS Reports:

Steve announced that IDS reports will be a regular feature at all SWG telecoms.

Chuck Dermer;

-In 2003, Dermer's IDS grant supported visits of Ms. Magda Gonzalez (U. Wisconsin graduate student of Dr. Brenda Dingus) and Dr. Armen Atoyan (U de Montreal) to NRL, and the NRC postdoctoral appointment of Dr. Stuart Wick. This led to a Nature paper on GRB 941017 with Dingus, Gonzalez and MSFC/U. Alabama scientists, an ApJ paper on hadron emissions in blazar jets and a PRL on gamma-rays and neutrinos from GRBs with Atoyan, and an Astroparticle Physics paper on cosmic rays, neutrinos, and gamma rays with Wick. An ApJ paper with Dr. Robert Berrington, which made predictions regarding GLAST detections of merging clusters of galaxies, also appeared in 2003. Berrington, who has moved to a new job at Wyoming, was supported by the IDS grant while at NRL.

Martin Pohl:

- has moved to the US, Iowa State
- concentrating on supernova remnants.
- has submitted a paper for publication.

Stephen Thorsett:

- pulsar catalog almost finished.
- Aspen meeting next month.
- also working on a project called NuSTAR, hard x-ray mission to launch late '07 early '08. Possibility of coordinated blazar studies with GLAST.

Comment from Peter M. suggested using the Allen Telescope Array for GLAST. Maybe able to do a lot for the Northern Hemisphere.

## David Band – SSC:

-User's Committee – working with Don on a report from the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Written comments were sent to David and he is putting summary together. Should be available to the SWG.

-Hoping to put together white paper.

-SSC peer review – went well. Some issues:

1. how the SSC gets involved in operations at the beginning of the mission.
2. commands from IOC to MOC.
3. Level 1 data.
4. monitoring of transient sources in later years transferred to GSSC?; will talk with Peter.
5. after review, would participate in ground system review in April; to talk off-line.

## Lynn Cominsky – EPO

-EPO plan has been approved by HQ. Don hasn't seen the letter, Lynn will send him a copy.

-extra PR money to print more cubes, 2500 printed the first round, will print another 2500. Spectrum owned 1500 of original 2500; will modify some of the logos and order of flags.

-NSF funding for PBS show has been approved.

-press release: just elected new ambassadors. GLAST now has 10, 5 new and 5 continuing. There is 23 total ambassadors for GLAST, Swift, etc.

-Brochures: stuck at the moment, can't seem to get the new material/photos; will send out as soon as it's put together.

-working on patch design, sticker design; Kevin suggested and is working on a trading card game.

-Space Mysteries – designed by younger students who play the game.

-updating and reorganizing the website.

-had done many workshops.

-going to Spectrum on January 15 to do a presentation.

-Press Releases – Steve asked Lynn to raise the priority of the press plan so that an efficient and fair process can be worked out now with all partners. Lynn will finish the draft plan and circulate it for comments.

-our work on the SLAC virtual visitor's center web site. This is also in progress, we have an initial layout for the project.

### Neil Gehrels – Public Outreach:

-Julie McEnery has been working on the re-write of the Science brochure. The plan is to update the current text and revise some of the figures.

Next face-to-face: Suggested topic is cooperation between GLAST and Tev ground-based facilities Science workshop

There is a LAT meeting at SLAC, September 27-28, 04. The workshop could be held on the 29, with the SWG on the 30. There is also a LAT meeting in June if a face-to-face is needed sooner.

Discussion on the use and content of SWG telecoms. Consensus is they are valuable and should continue.

Next telecom in February.

### ACTION ITEMS from this meeting:

Peter M:

1. getting figures for GLAST brochure.
2. follow-up on Science Workshop associated with the SWG meeting in September.
3. multi-wave length committee.

Steve R:

1. User's Committee report available to the SWG.
2. Steve and Peter will contact ground-based experiments for interest in a face-to-face workshop.
3. EPO plan to Don and Steve.
4. Review tools – Frank Marshall will be asked to review.

Lynn C:

1. Press Plan.

Adjourned

.