

NGST

and



<http://astro.estec.esa.nl/NGST/>

<http://ecf.hq.eso.org/ngst/ngst.html>

NASA has formally invited ESA to participate in NGST

- Continuation of successful HST collaboration
- Involvement linked to extension of ESA/NASA HST MOU beyond 2001

Foreseen place in ESA Science Program

- Minor partner participation as for HST
- Aim for second “F-class” mission slot in H2000 long term plan
- Financial envelope 175 MECU (200 M\$)
- Selection in mid 2001

ESA Technical Feasibility Studies Under Way

- Ultimate goal to identify potential ESA hardware contributions
- Both science instrumentation and spacecraft subsystems

ESA NGST Events So Far:

- Report of NGST Task Group Oct 97
- Go-ahead for recommended studies Nov 97
- Personnel appointed and D/SCI briefed on plans Dec 97
- Call for “Letters of Interest” issued Jan 98

Coming Events:

- Receipt of “Letters of Interest” Feb 98
- Selection of ESA Study Science Team Feb 98
- Issue of “Invitations to Tender” Mar 98
- Liege NGST meeting Jun 98
- Completion of ESA Pre-Phase A Studies Apr 99
- F2 Mission Selection Jun 01

Recommendations of ESA NGST Task Group:

1) Study devoted to low-background orbits (In House)

- IR background in deep 1x3 AU orbit versus L2
- Launchers, orbital transfer, solar electric propulsion
- Power, telecommunications, attitude
- Budget: 150 KECU

2) Study of Multi-object/Integral Field Spectrograph (Scientific Institute)

- Performance requirements
- Design options
- Performance evaluation
- Identify technological development areas
- Budget: 200 KECU

3) Study of Complete Payload and Telescope (Industry)

- Define instrument and telescope requirements
- Produce preliminary designs
- Determine areas of European expertise
- Identify technological development areas
- Budget: 750 KECU

ESA Project:

- Study Manager: J. Cornelisse
- Study Scientist: P. Jakobsen

ESA Study Science Team:

- ESA/ESTEC: P. Jakobsen (Chair)
- ESA/ST-ECF: R. Fosbury
- ESA/HQ: S. Volonte
- External: 6(?) members to be selected following receipt of "Letters of Interest"
- NASA: 1-2 representatives from ASWG

NASA Ad Hoc Science Working Group:

- ESA: P. Jakobsen, R. Fosbury
- External: 3(?) Euro representatives to be selected from ESA SST

Frequent contacts and exchanges at project level

ESA members on Senior Review Board

ESA members of Ad Hoc Science Working Group

NASA member(s) of ESA Science Study Team