

# Operations Working Group Report

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# Operations Working Group

- Operations Working Group is a sub-committee of the Gemini Science Committee made up of NGO heads and Gemini management.
- Issues discussed are generally more practical and less tactical than at the GSC - e.g. contents of Call For Proposals, improvements to the Phase-I and II process, time accounting.
- Two Operations Working Group meetings since the last 8mUG meeting - Aug 2006 and Jan 2007.

# Aug 06 - user issues

- At the Aug 06 meeting, some time was spent discussing the main issues affecting the users and possible solutions

WHAT Oversubscription not high and falling in several partners

WHY ? Phase-II is complex, incorrect perception of completion rates

## SOLUTIONS

- web page containing science operations statistics  
*<http://www.gemini.edu/sciops/telescope/SciOpsStats/sciopsstats.html>*
- Make Phase-II easier - improve skeletons, improve libraries, add automatic Phase-II checks, improve web pages
- Group now discussing skeleton improvements and automatic checking for 07B. Web pages undergoing improvement (see next page). Internal deadline for Phase-II readiness moved forward to allow more time for checking of libraries, web pages and software.

# Aug 06 - user issues

WHAT Web pages are out of date and information is hard to find

## SOLUTIONS

- Update of web page content and information is underway. Web page content was updated in August 2006 before the 07A CfP. Small group of NGO+Gemini currently assessing new content management system.

# Aug 06 - user issues

WHAT Users are finding data reduction difficult (especially for some instruments/modes)

## SOLUTIONS

Gemini Data Flow project scientist hired in 2006 to implement data reduction pipeline. The pipeline will use the same tasks as are available to the users, so first step is to improve these.

Improvement of data reduction information not yet discussed.

# Jan 07 - process issues

## Call for Proposals

See <http://gemini.physics.ox.ac.uk/>

- Proposal deadline is April 2nd (3pm BST in UK)
- Proposals can only contain one telescope (this is now enforced in the OT)
- To be considered for Band 3, proposers must fill in the Band 3 tab, which gives possible alternative conditions, a minimum useful Band 3 time and a short justification. These will only be considered by the TAC if the proposal is ranked in Band 3.
- Classical proposals must state the required observing conditions. If good observing conditions are required they must also give a back-up program requiring worse observing conditions (or state that no back-up program is available). For 07B the back-up program should be a one page attachment. If conditions during the run are worse than in the main and the back-up program then the time will revert to Q observing.

## Phase-II

- From 07B there will only be one Phase-II deadline, approximately 4 weeks after the feedback and release of the OT.

Dates for 07B are: ~8 June OT release, **10 July Phase-II deadline**