



Retreat Goals

CfAO Spring Retreat

20 March, 2003

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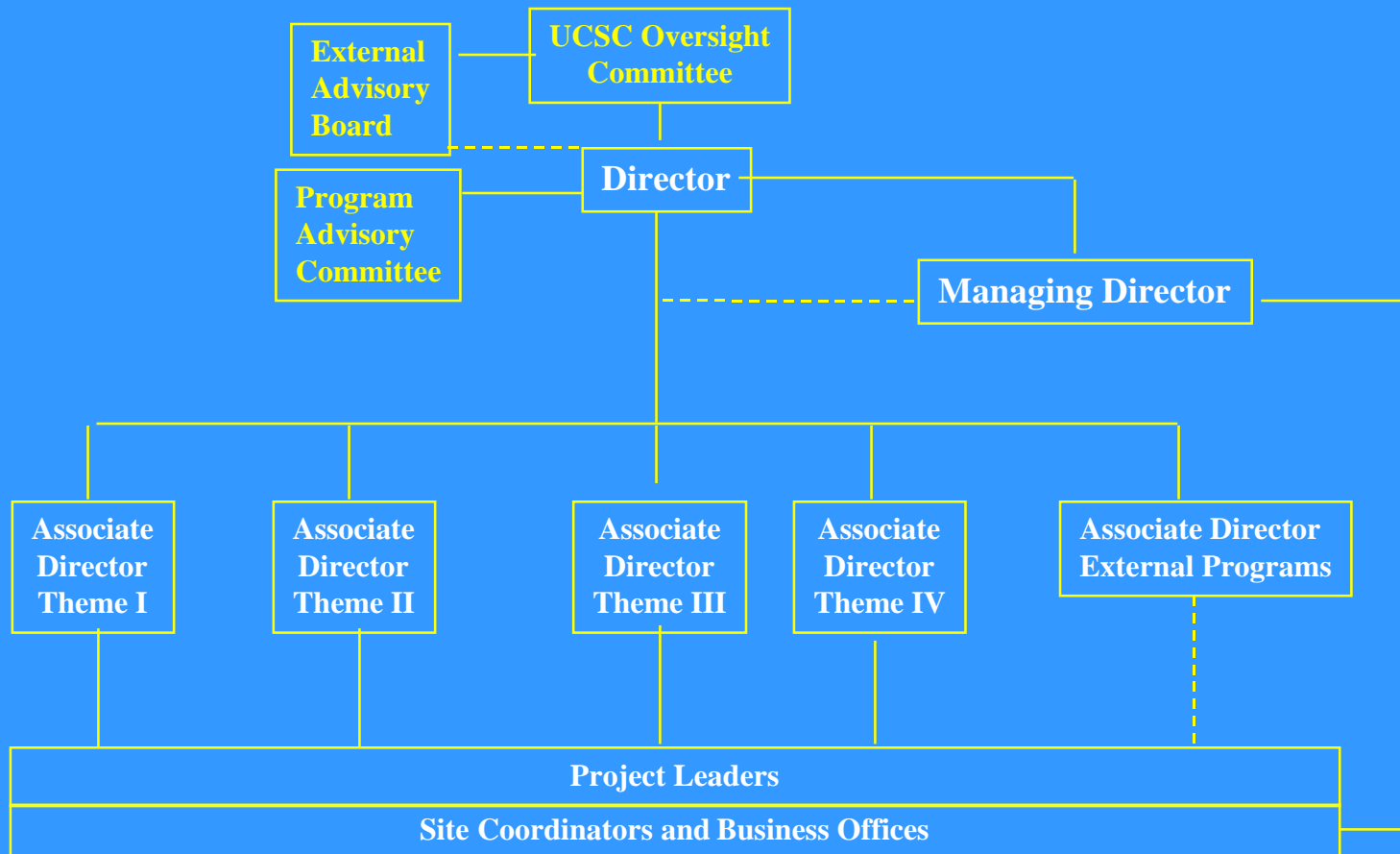


Outline

- **Organization**
- **2002 Site visit, PAC and EAB reports**
- **Annual Proposal Cycle**
- **Renewal Proposal and year 6-10 activities**
- **Renewal site visit**



Organizational Chart





The Themes and Other Activities

- **Theme 1 - Education and Human Resources**
Theme Leader - Lisa Hunter
- **Theme 2 - AO for Extremely Large Telescopes**
Theme Leader - Claire Max
- **Theme 3 - Extreme Adaptive Optics**
Theme Leader - Scot Olivier
- **Theme 4 - Compact Vision Science Instrument-
-ation for Clinical and Scientific Use**
Theme Leader - David Williams
- **Knowledge Transfer and Partnership Activities**
Scot Olivier



Year 4 Funding

Item	proposed	Actual
• Total funds (\$K)		4000K
– Directors reserve	250	200
– Workshops/infrastructure	558	537
• Remaining for proposals		3263
– EHR (Theme 1)	647	508 (0.156)
– ELT's (Theme 2)	1929	1543 (0.463)
– XAO (Theme 3)	919	596 (0.183)
– Vision Science (Theme 4)	1511	936 (0.287)
– Budget imbalance	-1814K	-320 (-0.10)



Review: External Advisory Board 2002

- **Met on 5-6th March 2002 (Next meeting Friday March 28 2003)**
- **Report from EAB**
 - The Center for Adaptive Optics is thriving
 - CfAO should establish international leadership role



Review Program Advisory Committee Report 2002

- **Met on 31 May 2002**
- **Asked them to review projects on edge**
- **Report from PAC**
 - Theme Organization appears to be working well
 - Specific advice on marginal proposal funding and other issues (in confidence)
 - Planning should go towards new relationships with industry and funding agencies



Review of 2002 NSF Visit

- **Site Visit October 1 – 4 2002**
- **Outcomes (Summary Comments)**
 - The CfAO has matured into a well-organized, cohesive research and educational unit. Under excellent leadership, the Center has articulated a clear set of project priorities, implemented an open and rigorous project review process, executed a wide-ranging and broadly successful series of research projects in astronomy and vision science, and expanded a thriving and innovative educational program
 - Center should develop a detailed roadmap with project schedules and updates.
 - Center is encouraged to expand the content and scope of its web site
 - Center members should meet their 5% commitment to education or linkage activities
- **Overall - A very good review and outcome**



Proposals

- **Develop long term (~5 year) and one year strategic plan.**
- **Identify milestones and deliverables**
- **Each proposal must show relationship to theme and theme objectives**
- **Theme leaders will clarify goals of each theme**



Multi-year Proposals

- **Advantage**

- Longer term and more ambitious projects can be confidently proposed
- Continued funding will be provided, given:
 - satisfactory achievement of milestones and deliverables
 - continued pertinence of objectives
- A simpler renewal template will be used

- **Meaning**

- Anticipated typical duration will be three years



Multiyear Management Issues

- **Multi year provides more stable funding for PIs but**
 - Reserve funds need to be set aside for flexibility and new projects
- **Funding could be discontinued in certain circumstances eg.**
 - External events could influence relevance
 - Project could encounter unexpected technical challenges



Single Year Proposals

- **Funding requests for a single year will be accepted.**
- **Strategic connection to a theme preferred.**
- **A strategic plan (long term if applicable) and for the year must be provided.**
 - Milestones and deliverables must be identified.



Collaborative Projects

- **NSF wants sum to be > than parts**
- **Centers were created to enable collaboration between PIs.**
- **All Review committees emphasized need for Center to be other than a mini-NSF**
- **NSF expects Centers to be multidisciplinary**
 - CfAO is unique in its melding of Astronomy and Vision Science.
- **One measure of collaboration and “Centerness” will be joint publications.**



Criteria for assessing Projects

- **Projects should be aligned with the Themes and the theme objectives as outlined by the Theme Leader**
- **Most favored**
 - Collaborative projects
 - Multi-year
- **Proposals reviewed by Proposal Review Committee with the aid of expert external reviewers**
 - (meets 23,24 June 2003)
- **Proposals on the edge discussed with PAC**
 - PAC meets 25 June 2003



Balance between Science and Technology

- **Thematic approach has shifted balance away from science towards technology**
 - Review Committees endorsed this.
 - **Science remains important to Center because**
 - This is a Science and Technology Center
 - Science creates great PR for AO
 - Science is a good test for many AO technologies
 - Many Center members are renowned scientists
 - **Science should exemplify the value and potential of AO**
 - **Science should be exciting and excellent**
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- **Clearly Science should be closely aligned to Themes**
 - **Collaborative and /or cross-disciplinary science is strongly encouraged**



Proposal Writing

- **Template will be provided**
- **Proposals can be for single year or multi-year**
- **Collaborative proposals between PIs will be strongly favored**
- **Strategic Plan - Milestones and deliverables must be included**
- **Longer term proposals are encouraged**
- **Proposals due 23 May 2003**



2003 NSF renewal

- **2003 STC Five Year Renewal (yrs 6-10)**
 - Proposal was created over the last several months and many members contributed
 - Proposal was submitted February 3, 2003
- **This retreat is the right time to consider the long term objectives expressed in the renewal proposal and write year 5 proposals that support our future**



2003 NSF renewal and Site Visit

- **2003 STC Five Year Renewal (yrs 6-10)**
 - Site Visit, April 15 to 17 2003
 - Meeting will be held in new Alumni Center (4/15) and ISB (4/16)
- **This is our most important site visit. Its purpose is to assess our renewal proposal and recommend to the NSF**
- **Ideas on presentation and content are welcome and should be discussed at this retreat**
- **Everyone should note the dates. Some of you will be requested to attend, particularly students and postdocs**



Summary

- **Good Progress made in 2002**
- **Reorganization to Themes, has led to stronger and healthier Center**
- **Center is receiving international recognition and was well reviewed at last site visit**
- **April site visit will determine funding for the next five years**
- **Enjoy the retreat**