

SOFIA International Summit Meeting March 2017

J. Stutzki – UKöln/GSSWG Chair

A. Boden – Caltech/SNOPAC Chair

SOFIA International Summit (SIS) Charter – Purpose

- From the SIS Charter – Purpose (24 May 2016):
 - “The SOFIA International Summit (hereafter, the “Summit”) is an external science group that discusses, evaluates and comments on SOFIA’s scientific performance and provides feedback to the SOFIA program management of NASA and DLR, the bi-national SOFIA partners. The results of the Summit reflect the opinions of individual members and consensus opinion of the group is not required.”
- SIS Convened by NASA SOFIA Project Manager (E.Zavala) and DLR SOFIA Project Manager (H.Hammes)

SIS Charge

- Our Charge with the SIS:
 - The multiple groups represented at the Summit are chartered to review, among their other tasks, one or more of the following topics. The Summit addresses aspects of some or all of these topics on a broad, program-wide level:
 - (1) Review the scientific operation and associated policies of SOFIA to ensure that SOFIA realizes maximum scientific productivity, efficiency and performance;
 - (2) Provide input on strategic considerations in addressing general scientific and programmatic priorities with SOFIA;
 - (3) Discuss issues that are of special interest and relevance within the bi-national context of SOFIA.

SOFIA Advisory Groups...

- ...from which the SIS is (primarily) drawn:

Group	Chartered by	Charge
SOFIA Program Assessment Group (SNOPAC)	U.S. SOFIA Program (NASA)	Provide independent assessment of SOFIA to NASA SOFIA Program Office, from a U.S. community perspective.
SOFIA Users Group (SUG)	SMO Director (USRA)	Advises the SMO Director on matters related to data quality, observatory performance, and SMO policies.
German SOFIA Science Working Group (GSSWG)	German SOFIA Program (DLR)	Advises DLR management on SOFIA policies and activities from a German community perspective.

SIS – Outcomes

- Collaboration between our two communities & constituencies
- Advice that helps foster SOFIA's success:
 - within our national astronomy communities, and
 - the broader international astronomy community
- Advocacy to and in those same communities that enhances SOFIA's impact, productivity, and user base to successfully address compelling scientific problems
- (Do what we can to) support SOFIA's appreciation among the public who fund it
- SIS Co-Chairs mandated to produce public, written report resulting from every SIS meeting:
 - Minutes
 - Summary recommendations

Discussion Topics This Meeting

- SOFIA Senior Review Preparations
 - Science Productivity
 - Key Science Topics
 - Instrument Program (Facility Instruments & PI Instruments)
- Science Program Lifetimes & PhD Student Involvement in Same
- German/US Collaboration
 - Science Programs
 - Instrumentation

Reporting

- Our convening authorities wish us to document our deliberations and advice
- During each session/discussion co-chairs will designate note-takers who are charged with recording the major points of the discussion
- After the meeting the co-chairs will collect these notes to initiate the meeting report process
 - Jüergen Stutzki <stutzki@ph1.uni-koeln.de>
 - Andy Boden <bode@astro.caltech.edu>
- We will iterate & coordinate our report with the SIS in advance of submission (~ 30 days after each meeting)