

Director's Discretionary Time Policy

Erick Young
28 April 2014

SOFIA Director's Time

- 7% of the SOFIA observing time is Director's Time.
- This time will be used to handle scientifically important observations that were not naturally accommodated by the annual Calls for Proposals. For example,
 - New phenomena
 - Exceptional activity in known objects
 - Proof of concept observations
 - Observations deemed in the best interest of the SOFIA observatory
- In general, DDT observations have no proprietary period.

Caveats

- Availability of the required science instrument is the primary constraint for rapid response
 - Already mounted instruments have the shortest turn around time
 - Facility Class Instruments will be resident at the DAOF and have staff available to operate them
 - PI Class Instruments are dependent on the availability of the instrument and the instrument teams
- Full feasibility of a given observation will not be known until the Phase II plan is developed.

How to Apply

- Streamlined Process
 - Write 2-3 page scientific justification and send it to SOFIA Director
 - eyoung@sofia.usra.edu
 - Send notification email to SOFIA Helpdesk:
 - sofia_help@sofia.usra.edu
 - If accepted, prepare detailed Astronomical Observation Requests
- Details at:

<http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/proposals/DDT/>

Results for Cycle 2

- Supernova SN2014J in M82 presented a rare opportunity to study a very nearby Type 1a object
 - Proposals received to observe with FLITECAM and FORCAST
 - There was also a Cycle 2 Target of Opportunity proposal to do spectroscopy $\lambda < 3 \mu\text{m}$ that was activated:
 - 01_0100 Garnavich
- Accepted Proposals:
 - Hamilton – FLITECAM Grism Spectroscopy $\lambda > 3 \mu\text{m}$
 - Vacca – FORCAST Grism Spectroscopy
 - Gehrz – Imaging
 - Spyromilio – Imaging and Spectroscopy

