

GAC report

May – Nov 2011

During this period, the committee saw its first membership rotation. The new membership is as follows.

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| Chair: | <u>John Hutchings</u> | (2009-13) HIA / NRC |
| Members: | Jo-Anne Brown | 2009-12 University of Calgary |
| | Tim Davidge | (2009-13) HIA / NRC |
| | Roland Kothes | (2009-13) DRAO |
| | Kristine Spekkens | (2011-14) Royal Military College |
| | Kenneth Tapping | DRAO, continuing member, spectrum management |
| | Kim Venn | (2009-12) University of Victoria |
| | Ludo van Waerbeke | (2011-14) University of British Columbia |
| | Tracy Webb | (2009-12) McGill University |

In September Tim Davidge took over as chair.

With the advent of the LRPIC, the GAC role expands to be one feeding opinions and information on ground-based facilities to the LRPIC as well as CASCA. Much of the activity during June-August was email traffic on LRPIC dealing with immediate questions on the VLOT options. While there was not a lot of GAC response, some members reported useful conversations with colleagues on the topic. As ongoing LRPIC chair, I consider this synergy and division of work important to continue and increase, as the funding situation for new facilities is daunting in the current economic climate in North America and Europe. Working with Asian colleagues, and looking towards a Pacific Rim Observatory consortium in Hawaii is an important aspect to consider and foster. Information has been forwarded to the GAC regarding plans for the ngCFHT, which would serve as a Canadian linchpin in the PRO, and prospects for Canadian access to LSST data products.

There is new activity in issues of the lifetime of JCMT and SCUBA2, which impact ALMA funding and participation in CCAT. These have been brought to the attention of the GAC, and they have been encouraged to keep abreast of the recently implemented `cdn_submm` discussion group.

Detailed reports on ground-based facilities were given in the May 2011 GAC report. We refer the CASCA board to that, since updates this soon will be incremental only.

John Hutchings and Tim Davidge