

ASAC Meeting—September 2005

GENERAL CHARGE

The ALMA Scientific Advisory Committee (ASAC) will provide advice on those major issues presented to the ASAC by the Project Scientist or the ALMA Board that affect the science capabilities of ALMA and require decisions to be made or priorities to be set regarding project tasks and resources. The ASAC will be kept informed of progress and developments in ALMA through periodic reports and briefings provided by the Joint ALMA Office and shall meet at least twice a year. Reports of the ASAC's deliberations will be made in writing to the Board by the Chairperson of the ASAC following each Committee meeting, on a schedule specified in advance by the Board. The Project Scientist serves on the Committee *ex officio*.

Charge for the Meeting of September 2005

The ASAC is requested to consider the following topics, and to make recommendations to the Board that include your priority or time scale where your recommendations require expenditure of ALMA's fixed resources:

1. Taking into account the information available following the June 2005 Board meeting on antenna procurement, overall project budget, and the status of rebaselining, the ASAC may be asked to review its April 2005 advice to the Board based on scientific priorities.
2. ASAC is invited to continue its considerations of this September, 2004 charge, which may be combined with the continued development of ideas for implementing demonstration science elaborated at the same meeting:

Following thorough assessment of the pros and cons of policies in use at existing ground- and space-based facilities, including those currently operated by the ALMA Executives, ASAC is invited to consider policy recommendations on:

- a. *how to facilitate joint projects between scientists of different partners,*
- b. *how to handle large proposals with significant scientific duplication, and*
- c. *whether provision needs to be made at this time for legacy projects and, if so, what mechanisms should be used for such projects.*

These complex, often-contentious issues should be addressed in the spirit of demonstrating how ASAC believes their recommendations, if adopted, would maximize ALMA's scientific impact.

3. Following from your Sept. 2004 discussions, the ASAC is invited to continue developing proposed "demonstration science" guidelines or policies. The ultimate goals include:
 - a. providing a proposed framework (rationale, principles) that establish the value to the astronomical community of accomplishing demonstration science as you envision it during the early operations era; and
 - b. facilitating evaluation of the concept, its proposed timeline and the planning for its implementation during a period when demand for ALMA construction and operational resources will likely be high.
4. Please review the revised Science Requirements Document (if available) and make recommendations concerning its adoption by the Board.

Please deliver your written report to the ALMA Board four weeks following the meeting.