

**Minutes of the GWDAW-9 Scientific Organizing Committee
Face-to-Face Meeting, Annecy, France**

16/12/2004, 13:00 CET

SOC members present: B.Allen (secretary), A.Buonanno, W.Anderson, F.Fidecaro, G.Gonzalez, V.Kalogera, W.Johnson, N.Kanda, A.Lazzarini, B.Mours (chair), M.A.Papa, G.Prodi, S.Scott, B.S.Sathyaprakash, P.Shawhan, A.Vecchio, A.Viceré, J-Y.Vinet.

Guest: M.Diaz.

1. Minutes:

Decision: This year, and in the future, the Chair of the previous year's Scientific Organizing Committee will serve as secretary for this annual face-to-face meeting. The minutes will be made public.

2. Location for GWDAW-10 in 2005:

As agreed last year, U.T. Brownsville will host the 2005 GWDAW meeting (GWDAW-10).

Decision: M. Diaz will Chair the SOC in the coming year.

3. Dates for GWDAW-10:

The GWDAW-10 meeting will take place in Brownsville Texas, starting on the morning of Wednesday December 14, 2005 and ending around lunchtime on Saturday December 17, 2005.

4. Composition of SOC:

As in previous years, the Chair of the SOC will determine the membership of the SOC, keeping some fraction of the previous year's members and adding some new members. Both the previous years Chair and (if possible) the upcoming years Chair should be members of the SOC.

5. Location for GWDAW-11 in 2006:

Institutions interested in hosting a meeting in the future are MIT (Katsavounidis), AEI (Schutz), Canberra (Scott), and TAMA (Kanda). Because they are organizing GR18 for July 2007, Canberra does not want to host GWDAW in 2006. Because they are organizing a number of "Einstein Year" meetings in 2005, AEI is not enthusiastic about hosting GWDAW in 2006. TAMA does not want to host a meeting for several more years. The SOC would like to continue rotation between continents when practical.

Decision: The GEO collaboration agrees to host GWDAW-11 in Europe in December 2006. GEO members Vecchio, Papa and Sathyaprakash will be responsible for coordinating this. They will confirm this commitment and announce the final location at the December 2005 GWDAW SOC meeting.

6. Location for GWDAW after 2006:

Institutions interested in hosting future GWDAW meetings must express their interest in writing to the current GWDAW SOC Chair. Currently standing expressions of intent are as follows:

The TAMA Collaboration (Kanda) would like to host the meeting in Japan in 2008 or 2009.

MIT (Katsavounidis) would like to host the next US meeting at MIT.

Canberra (Scott) would like to host the meeting in 2009 or 2010.

7. Discussion of format for GWDAW-10:

There was agreement that one should have fewer talks, longer talks, moderated discussion, and more posters. The SOC agreed that having poster advertising and a larger poster session worked well this year, and should be continued. In particular, poster presenters should have the same publication-in-proceedings rights and responsibilities as other presenters. The system of having all talks (especially 'poster advertisers' short presentations) preloaded onto a single machine for display worked very well and should be continued. There was substantial and lively discussion about how to increase the amount of time devoted to cutting edge technical questions. Some proposals included limiting 'status of detector' talks to two slides/10 minutes, and having a single person do long overview talks for sources and data analysis status. For example, the idea was discussed to replace the 'source modeling' talks with invited summaries. After some discussion this was rejected. In light of the increased number of abstracts submitted and the increasing activity in the field, there was a proposal to increase the length of the meeting from 3.5 to 4 days by extending the Saturday session. This was rejected by an SOC vote of 10 to 8.

Decision: The 'status of detector' talks provide important background and should be continued, however the session should be limited to two hours total, and does not require significant discussion time.

Decision: In a number of sessions, the organizer should leave a block of time (order 30 minutes) free at the end of the session, for open discussion. The session organizer or a selected participant should moderate this discussion, perhaps beginning with a short (5 minute) summary of the outstanding issues.

The SOC face-to-face meeting concluded at 14:30 CET.