

## ATCA/Parkes Forum Meeting Minutes

DATE: 20th October 2015  
TIME: 11:30 - 12:30  
LOCATION: Basement Conference Room  
FOCUS: ATCA

ACTION Items are preceded with \*\*\* and are summarized at the end.

Ryan: Parkes Question: Modeling the response of the multi-beam... Are there drawings or models of the multi-beam feeds anywhere? The actual dimensions of the feeds? \*\*\*Stacy will look on hard drive(s) to see if they are there.

### Phil's Science Operations Report:

- Observer VNC passwords have changed.
  - Updated the advice to include that the password contains 8 characters so that folks know that square brackets are included
- Some small schedule changes may be coming
- New fault report system has been preventing people from submitting fault reports.
  - Ryan: Can the fault reports be visible/published somewhere without the need for an ident+CSIRO password?
  - Robin: Publishing the fault reports is a good idea
- ATCA Legacy Projects: currently under consideration

### Jamie's ATCA Report:

- New antenna feed horns have been installed on #s 3 and 5
  - the only difference between the production feed horns (on there now) and the test feed horns (taken down) is that the production ones are painted so the test feed horns will be shipped back to Marsfield to be painted and then they will go up on 2 other antennas
- 9 day power shutdown to happen in next couple of weeks to replace generator system
- Heat Stows: Are heat stow instructions needed? A heat stow is for mm observing where hot air can shutdown the compressor system -- happens at temps above ~40-45 or so. Jamie predicts that the ambient temp will get over 50!!!

### Mark's Computing Report:

- Miriad updates: gpdit was update so that the bandpass can now be smoothed
- CASA updates: mosaicing and MS-cleaning can now be done simultaneously; importATCA task and importMiriad task are now available

### Feedback from All:

- Robin still needs 3 DAs for Christmas, Australia Day, and Easter:
  - If anyone is interested in doing a day or two over Christmas or the following week, please let Robin know
  - Sui Ann Mao is visiting over Christmas so if she will be observing from the SOC, we will need to support her.

### Previous ACTION ITEMS:

- YouTube Videos: Virginia provided constructive feedback;
  - What other videos would be useful? Simon: Let's get ATUC members to watch them and provide feedback as well as what other videos would be good to have. \*\*\*Jo to email ATUC members so they can watch videos before ATUC meeting.
  - Baerbel: Could we have a link to them in the Portal for remote observers?
  - Jamie: \*\*\*Please provide feedback! Feedback of videos is still needed.
- \*\*\*Jamie would like RFI flagging help -- possible a Miriad script -- Mark says he's happy to help; Ryan-- How specific is RFI flagging to bands/frequencies? Jamie's idea is that we know about certain transmitters that emit RFI at certain frequencies, so if we could develop a script that "asks" is there RFI at this known frequency? If yes, then flag it, if not, then carry on.
  - To take screen shot in SPD = type "w"
- \*\*\*Phil will check with Jessica about adding a link to "Archive of Issues" page in ATOA
- User's Guide: Robin, Karen, Shari and Jamie are working together to fix the User's Guide
  - \*\*\*If anyone knows of any bugs or issues with the User's Guide, speak now or forever hold your peace. The idea is to address all known issues this week and then not work on it again until next year.

### New ACTION ITEMS:

- Focus Tests: Ray has done some work on focus tests, but it needs to be redone with new feed horns.
  - \*\*\*Robin would like someone with data reduction skills who can help with focus tests.
    - Ian: How much time is required? Robin: I don't know.
    - Simon: These things should be documented (possibly automated) so that this can be repeated in a year's time or so.
- Automation of observing: some observers forget to start a loop, so Jamie proposes that all sched files be run in a loop automatically.
  - \*\*\*Please give feedback on this idea.
  - Baerbel: I suggest no changes. If you let the telescope idle, then you're not paying enough attention to the observing in the first place.
- Simon: any chance of putting VIS on the web? This would be a much easier way of looking at data then opening VNC windows. Jamie says that the machinery is there, so it is possible. Jamie says that it can be done.
  - \*\*\*Web VIS!

### Next Meeting:

DATE: 17th November  
TIME: 11:30 - 12:30  
LOCATION: Basement Conference Room  
FOCUS: Parkes Telescope