

Development DivisionQuarterly Report: 2012Q1

1 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Project	Work	Duration	Status	Comments
	complete	complete		
FLAMINGOS-2	5%	10%	Behind- schedule on	System Verification stage in February
			some	when the main L1 lens fractured.
			secondary	Project is now re-baselined for
			work packages	acceptance on telescope completed in
			(like OIWFS).	January 2013.
GeMS	70%	75%	On-schedule	Phase 6 of technical and science commissioning
GMOS-N CCD	NA	NA	On-schedule	project re-baselined after E2V CCD project completed in December, now reworking the whole schedule for the Hamamatsu CCDs. Acceptance on telescope schedule for March 2013. On schedule.
GPI	NA	NA	On-schedule	overall project tracked at UCSC is about 90% complete (since initiation in 2006). On schedule for delivery at telescope in 2013Q1.
GHOS	18%	28%	Behind schedule on producing revised Gemini ICDs.	Conceptual Design proceeding on plan
GRACES	17%	28%	Behind schedule	Delays in optical fiber purchase.
A&G-2	NA	NA	Behind- schedule (+2 months aprox) compared to estimates of October 2011.	project is being re-baselined and is suffering from lack of resources and can't ramp-up properly due to other priorities, in particular F2 and GeMS.

2 PAST/CURRENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES

• FLAMINGOS-2

- Technical and science commissioning was successfully done in December 2011 and January 2012. Call for SV was ready to go out early February. First multi-object spectra obtained, see at
 - http://www.gemini.edu/sciops/instruments/flamingos2/?q=sciops/instruments/flamingos2
- Damage (fracture) found on the largest lens forced an unexpected long shutdown. See at http://www.gemini.edu/node/10351
- Lens escalation activity (root cause analysis etc...) was completed early April with the help and guidance from external reviewers from ANU, NOAO, University of Montreal and Sandia National Laboratories.
- First new lens (a second spare is also on production line) is being fabricated and delivery is expected early June. Opto-mechanical mounting is being reviewed to increase safety margins.

GeMS

- o Commissioning runs have been happening monthly since last November
- Focus is given to improvement of performance, stabilization of sub-systems (BTO, laser, Canopus AO bench,...) and their reliability, cross-training between AO scientists and SOS for operations.
- o After a failure of a GSAOI cool-down in March, GeMS was tested with GMOS, given outstanding results (see http://www.gemini.edu/node/11804)
- o Acquisition time to start a science observation is currently between 12 and 20min

• GMOS-N CCDs

- o DD E2V CCDs operating, see http://www.gemini.edu/sciops/instruments/?q=node/10004
- O Deliveries (Hamamatsu CCDs, focal plane array, controller, software, and documentation) have been delivered by HIA and accepted (December 2011)
- o The CCDs and controller have been characterized in the lab and efforts to reduce the read noise have begun
- o A recent external review of the noise reduction process supported our efforts and resulted in an 8-item action plan being implemented now.

• GPI

- o IFS integrated into instrument in January
- o IFS pupil image and first spectra taken in February
- o System characterization started in March and first end-to-end contrast ratio measurement taken on March 31 (see pictures in June 2012 GeminiFocus newsletter)

• GHOS

- o Midpoint visits to each team completed with impressive progress all the way around.
- Continuous interaction with teams, providing technical answers to their questions and concerns.

GRACES

- o Final optical design iterated and optical fiber purchased. Resolution is ~55K in star-only mode and 32-33K in the star+sky mode.
- Ongoing design for image slicer in ESPaDOnS and injection module in GMOS

• A&G-2

- o Top-level science requirements being gathered
- o Feasibility study about GCAL packaging into A&G-2
- Ending feasibility study about Science Fold module compatibility with future AO systems (study started in October 2011)

3 COMING PROJECT ACTIVITIES (next quarter)

• FLAMINGOS-2

- o Critical design for the new L1 lens cell, FEA analysis and thermal testing with old lens
- New lens delivery
- o Detector fanout board improvement (parallel activity to reduce thermal risk to array)

GeMS

- o Last 2 commissioning runs in April with targets selected from community, see at http://www.gemini.edu/sciops/instruments/?q=node/11729
- o Planning and execution of winter shutdown activities (May-September)

• GMOS-N CCDs

- o Beginning implementation of identified noise reduction solutions
- o A new comprehensive project plan with updated end dates will be produced in April

• GPI

o Sub-system mitigations period preparation of acceptance stage readiness review

GHOS

- o Conceptual-Design Proposals due 14 May 2012.
- o CODR committee has been formed (pending conflicts of interest) and the design review meeting is currently planned for 30May-1Jun12.

GRACES

Optical fiber testing and continuation of opto-mechanical design for slicers and injection module

A&G-2

 Finalize science and sub-systems requirements, prepare material for Request for Proposal phase

4 OTHER DEVELOPMENT TEAM ACTIVITIES

• Joint work with Gemini STAC

- o Received 8 white papers for GIROS, see http://www.gemini.edu/node/11725
- o Designing an instrumentation Long Range Plan definition process to converge by November 2012 on future capabilities (2020)

• Gemini-North AO workshop

 Organized jointly with HIA and University of Victoria to discuss science cases and observational technique options for the future AO platform at Gemini-North (successor of Altair), see at https://www.astrosci.ca/gnao2012/Home.html

• Gemini Users Meeting

 We are working to produce an agenda for the Users section of the coming Gemini Users Meeting. We expect at least one half-day session on GHOS and GRACES capabilities and science and one half-day session on Gemini long range instrumentation plan development