SWG Chairs meeting 16/01/2024

Anna leading on behalf of Robert.

SWG Chairs: Casasola, van Loon, Ng, Gupta, Zucca, Radcliffe, Joshi, Hessels, Vernstrom, Datta, Forbrich, Sargent, Yang, Muller, Ingallinera, Hurley-Walker, Sharma
Guests: Camilo
SKAO: Williams, Bourke, Bonaldi

Cosmology SWG meeting ongoing in Portugal. Anna attending.

Science Meetings

Note that EAS SS31 The SKA Observatory: pathway to science operations, July Padova now accepted
Tessa noted: One more meeting to add to this list, Cosmic Magnetism in the Pre-SKA era, Japan May 27-31, http://ska-jp.org/ws/SKAJP_MAGWS2024/index.html
Cosmology in the Alps - no remote participation but slides and recordings will be made available.
Jason: Also a note that FRB 2024 is planned for November and will happen in Thailand. More details to follow.

Construction Strategy
Design target AA4. Funding committed for AA* (staged deployment)
Presentation on array layouts for AA2, AA*, AA4

Sensitivity calculators & array layouts
See tools page: https://www.skao.int/en/ska-tools

What is the timeline for call for proposals for KSPs and PI proposals. 2027?
A: PI call will come first, less risk. KSP later. We will send out more information soon on timelines now that the plans for AA* are in place.
Any plan for a python API for the calculator
A: It has been discussed and is likely to happen
Is pulsar mode planned for calculator
A: Yes, in progress
Can a sub-array config be uploaded to the calculator
A: no, but can be used with the python code. A fix number of sub-arrays will be offered by Operations
Many new chairs, so many seeking to have input into the sub-array discussions. Will make these known to the Science and Operations team working on those (Wendy is part of this team).

Feedback from Wendy: "It will be possible to add to the set of sub-array templates in the future - the set defined now will not be the only ones that can be used. Future versions of the sensitivity calculators will include the set of subarray templates."

Jason: request to have a regular update on these calls as to the timelines and opportunities for community involvement, including commissioning activities, not just calls for proposals.

Tessa: Record the meetings please.
A: yes we will, not able to today due to zoom room ownership.