

# CFHT Large Programs - [2008B-2012B] Campaign

## The context

The success of the CFHT Legacy Survey (CFHTLS) demonstrated the impact of well coordinated large programs carried out in service observing mode at CFHT and aimed at answering some key questions of today's astronomy from Solar System to cosmology. With the core of the CFHTLS observations completed by the end of the 2008A semester, there is an opportunity to offer MegaCam, WIRCam and ESPaDOnS to Large Programs for which multi-Agency collaboration is encouraged. A fraction of CFHT observing time will therefore be made available for these Large Programs over the nine semesters 2008B to 2012B, ramping-up in 2008B and potentially reaching up to 40% of the allocation of the participating Agencies.

Not all Large Programs need to be selected with this first call. Similar calls will be made once a year as long as there is still observing time available. While a dozen such Large Programs could be envisioned over the [2008B-2012B] period, the number could potentially be significantly less if really large ones are accepted.

## What is a Large Program?

A Large Program must require at least 200 hours of observing time that can be spread on one or more instruments (like a combined visible and infrared imaging program using MegaCam and WIRCam). The observing time can be spread over the entire [2008B-2012B] period or be requested for specific semesters.

## Which criteria will be used in the selection process?

*The scientific merit of the program, the feasibility of the observations at CFHT, and the capability of the team to handle the data reduction process* to achieve the scientific goals will be essential to the selection of a proposed Large Program (LP). Other factors will be taken into account in the selection process and need to be addressed in the proposal: the willingness of the LP team to provide immediate access to the CFHT community, the interest of the data beyond the main scientific goals of the LP, the potential legacy value of the data acquired, and the inter-Agency nature of the LP team.

## Selection process schedule of events

- **15 October 2007, 24:00 UTC** - Deadline for the submission of Large Program Letters of Intent (see form on the next page).
- 6/7 November 2007 - At its November meeting, the Scientific Advisory Council will use the Letters of Intent to appoint experts to the LP Time Allocation Committee (LPTAC) which will ultimately select the proposals.
- **1 February 2008, 24:00 UTC** - Deadline for the submission of the Large Program Proposals. The appropriate form will be sent by the end of November 2007 to the PIs who submitted a Letter of Intent.
- Subsequent review process will involve the LPTAC and the experts.
- Early May 2008 - Review by the national TACs and feedback (not ranking) provided to the LPTAC.
- **May 2008 SAC meeting** - Large Program final selection by the LPTAC.

## Composition of the LPTAC

The LPTAC will consist of the SAC TAC members, two SAC members (ideally Chair and Vice Chair), the CFHT Executive Director (as a non-voting member) and the external experts selected by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of SAC based on the Letters of Intent.

## Instructions to fill the Letter of Intent form

The form is a simple Adobe pdf form. The scientific justification, limited to 5000 characters, can be prepared using your favorite editor. Just paste it in the appropriate area of the form when you are ready.

This is only a Letter of Intent. It means that information like the list of collaborators, the number of hours or semesters is preliminary. The closer you are to the final values, the better for the LPTAC preparation.

When you are done, click the "Submit" button. An xml file with the information you entered in the form will be sent to CFHT.

## Useful Links

- CFHT "<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/>"      **MegaCam** "<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/Instruments/Imaging/MegaPrime/>"  
**WIRCam** "<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/Instruments/Imaging/WIRCam/>"  
ESPaDOnS "<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/Instruments/Spectroscopy/Espadons/>"      **QSO** "<http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/Instruments/Queue/>"

# Letter of Intent to submit a CFHT Large Program Proposal [2008B-2012B] Campaign

PI Lastname

Firstname

Institute

email

Agency(ies) involved

 C F H T

## Preliminary list of the main collaborators (Name, Institute)

1

2

3

4

5

6

Title of the LP

## Scientific rationale of the LP (5000 characters max)

## Estimate of the LP requirements

Instrument(s)

 MegaCam WIRCam ESPaDOnS

Number of hours (200 or more)

Number of semesters (9 max)

Date

