You are welcome to nominate speakers to colloquium@nao.cas.cn. The video and slides of previous colloquia and more information can be found at http://colloquium.bao.ac.cn/.

国台学术报告 NAOC COLLOQUIUM

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Time: Wednesday 10:30 AM, May. 9th Location: A601, NAOC

Near and Long Term Plans at the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope

Dr. Doug Simons (CFHT Director)

Dr. Andy Sheinis (CFHT Director of Engineering)

Prof. Doug Simons received his Bachelor of Science degree in astronomy at the California Institute of Technology in 1985, and his Ph.D. in astronomy at the University of Hawai'i in 1990, before working as a staff astronomer at the Canada-France-Hawai'i Telescope (CFHT) for 4 years. Doug joined the Gemini 8 m Telescope Project in 1994 as the Systems Scientist, then as the Associate Director for Development managed Gemini's instrumentation program for many years before becoming Gemini Observatory's Director from 2006-2011. Doug returned to CFHT in 2012 where he has been serving as Executive Director.

Andrew Sheinis is the Director of Engineering at the Canada France Hawaii Telescope since 2017. He has over 30 years of experience optical and NIR technology for astronomical, defense and medical applications, over 50 publications, 7 US patents and has developed instruments for Keck, Gemini, AAO and SALT. Starting in 2012, he was the Head of Instrumentation at the Australian Astronomical Observatory in Sydney Australia; jointly appointed as an Associate Professor at the University of Sydney, and is a Fellow of the Astronomical Society of Australia. Prior to Australia, he was on the faculty at University of Wisconsin and prior to that was an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Adaptive Optics in Santa Cruz. He earned a Ph.D. in Astrophysics at the University of California in Santa Cruz.

Abstract

CFHT remains among the most scientifically productive observatories in the world. A number of factors contribute to CFHT's success including its innovative operations and instrumentation and the depth of the international community it supports. The combination of MegaCam, WIRCam, ESPaDOnS, SITELLE, and most recently SPIRou gives CFHT's community an incredible array of modern instrumentation to support research on everything from dark matter to exoplanets. Consistent with CFHT's spirit of innovation but on a much larger scale, CFHT's planned successor MSE (the Maunakea Spectroscopic Explorer) has been under development for a number of years and is about to enter its Preliminary Design phase. MSE will be a flagship in 21st century ground based astronomy. With a growing partnership and exceptional progress defining its design and science case, MSE is poised to revolutionize research involving large scale multi-object spectroscopic datasets. As a replacement for CFHT, MSE's 11 m telescope and fully dedicated banks of low, medium, and high resolution spectrometers feeding 4000 fibers will open incredible avenues of research from Maunakea through surveys that have not been practical to date without such a machine. MSE is also a marvel of engineering, reusing a large fraction of CFHT's existing facility without any increase in its footprint while tripling the diameter of the telescope's primary mirror and increasing the height of the enclosure by only ~10%. It will serve as a model for "recycling" observatory sites on Maunakea while radically updating CFHT's mission with strong synergies with other observatories including LSST and GAIA.

All are welcome ! Tea and coffee will be served at 9:15 AM.