

Appendix C

AAT Board members & committees

Board members

The AAT Board has six members, three appointed by each country, and the role of Chair alternates between the two countries. Professor R D Ekers is Chair and Professor Mark Birkinshaw is Deputy Chair..

At 30 June 2003 the Board members were:

Australia

Professor R D Ekers, (Chair), Director, Australia Telescope National Facility

Professor K C Freeman, Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Australian National University

Professor L Cram, Program Director, Australian Research Council

United Kingdom

Professor M Birkinshaw, (Deputy Chair), William P Coldrick Professor of Cosmology and Astrophysics, University of Bristol

Dr P Roche, Department of Astrophysics, University of Oxford

Mr G Brooks, Head of Astronomy Division, Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council

Special responsibilities

Professor Cram and Mr Brooks have been nominated by the Designated Agencies, DEST and PPARC respectively, to represent their agencies on all matters in relation to the operation of the Agreement.

Board meetings

The AAT Board usually meets twice each year. All members attended both meetings.

In September 2002, the meeting was hosted by the University of Bristol. In April 2003, the Board meeting was held at Siding Spring and at Mt Stromlo. The associated symposium was held jointly with the Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF), at Mt Stromlo. These joint symposia help to maintain the strong links which exist between the radio and optical communities in Australia.

AAO Director

The AAO Director, Professor B J Boyle, is responsible for the successful operation of the telescopes, for providing the best possible facilities for all telescope users and for ensuring that the Observatory maintains its high standing in the international scientific community. The Director also actively pursues his own scientific research.

Advisory committees

AAO Users' Committee

The AAO Users' Committee (AAOUC) consists of six members: three external members each from the UK and Australia.

Its terms of reference are:

1. To provide advice to the Director on operational and developmental issues relating to the facilities provided by the AAO. These include the Anglo-Australian Telescope, the Schmidt Telescope and all aspects of support provided by the AAO.
2. To make recommendations to the Director that seek to maximise the scientific productivity and maintain the competitiveness of the Observatory, taking into account the likely resources availability.
3. To consult widely with the community, liaising where necessary with national time assignment groups, to establish priorities for both operational and instrumentation initiatives.
4. To interface with the design review panels, commenting on any issues arising from these panels that impact on the delivery of key user science requirements.
5. To provide a written report through the Director for submission to each September meeting of the AAT Board.

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At 30 June 2003 the six AAOUC members were:

Australia

Dr G Da Costa (ANU) (Chair)
Dr T Bedding (Sydney)
Dr M J Drinkwater (Queensland)

United Kingdom

Dr S J Warren (ICSTM)
Dr Mark Casali (ROE)
Dr S G Ryan (OU)

Time allocation committees

Under Article 5 of the Anglo-Australian Telescope Agreement, observing time and use of associated facilities and services is shared equally by Australia and Britain. The Board has chosen to exercise its responsibility for the allocation of time on the AAT and UKST through arrangements made with the two Designated Agencies. Under guidelines set by the Board, each agency operates through national committees—the Australian Time Assignment Committee (ATAC) and the UK Panel for the Allocation of Telescope Time (PATT) — which allocate time on the AAT on the basis of the scientific merit of proposals submitted by astronomers, including AAO staff.

At 30 June 2003, membership of the committees was:

ATAC

Dr B Gibson (Swinburne) *Chair*
Dr M Drinkwater (UQ) *Deputy Chair*
Dr P Francis (RSAA)
Dr D Forbes (Swinburne)
Dr B Schmidt (RSAA)
Dr M Burton (NSW)

PATT (AAT TAG)

Dr A Zijlstra (UMIST) *Chair*
Dr P Best (Edinburgh)
Dr J Liske (St Andrews)
Dr S Ryan(OU)

