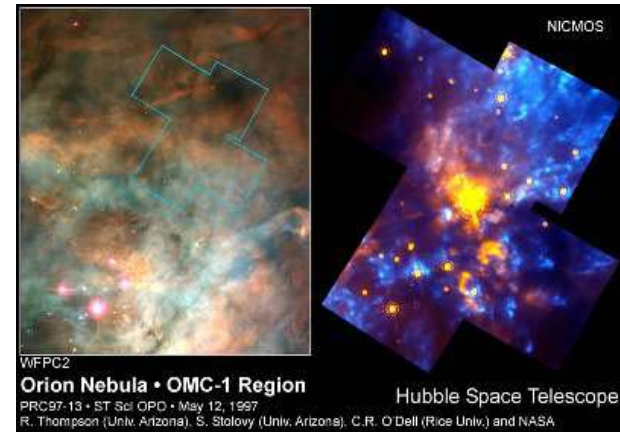
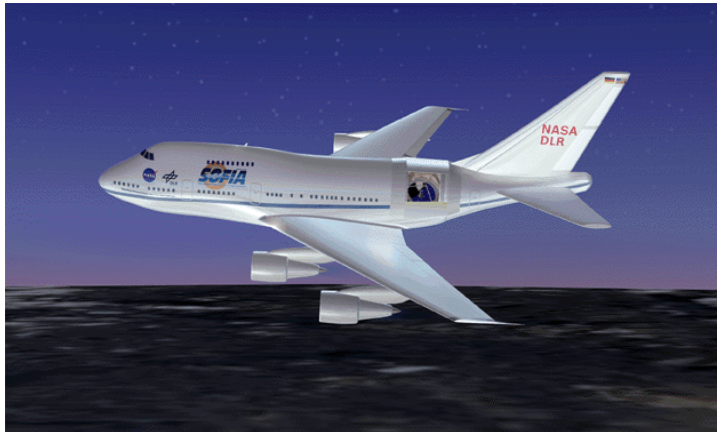


## *SOFIA Community Task Force (SCTF) AAS Workshop*

# *Early Science Opportunities With Sofia III: Introduction*



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# *Outline*

- *The SOFIA Community Task Force (SCTF)*
- *Mission of the SCTF*
- *Activities of the SCTF*
- *Agenda for “Early Scientific Opportunities with SOFIA III”*

## *The SOFIA Community Task Force (SCTF) - Members*

*Dana Backman: SETI Institute, SOFIA E & PO*

*Eric Becklin: USRA SOFIA Chief Scientist*

*Ed Erickson: NASA ARC Associate*

*Bob Gehrz (Leader): University of Minnesota*

*Matt Greenhouse: NASA GSFC*

*Paul Hertz: NASA Headquarters*

*Bob Joseph: Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii*

*Dan Lester: University of Texas*

*Margaret Meixner: STScI*

*Tom Roellig: NASA ARC*

*Goran Sandell: USRA SOFIA*

*Xander Tielens: NASA ARC*

*SI PI's/designated representatives*

## *The Mission of the SCTF*

*The objectives of the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) Community Task Force (SCTF) are to:*

- Inform and engage the astronomical community in planning for the SOFIA General Observer (GO) science program*
- Develop a long-range science plan that will realize the potential of SOFIA as a premier observatory and as a platform for developing forefront technology*

## *Summary of Activities of the SCTF*

*The SCTF is involved in five activities to raise SOFIA's scientific Visibility (see our web page at [www.sofia.usra.edu](http://www.sofia.usra.edu)):*

- *Talks and papers are being presented at universities and space science related venues in the United States and abroad to inform the user community about the status of the SOFIA Project*
- *White paper from Caltech Workshop on "SOFIA's 2020 Vision"*
- *White paper from AAS Early Science Workshops I and II: "Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA"*
- *SOFIA "Design Reference Mission" activity*
- *USRA/ARC "SOFIA New Science Vision" activity – covers both early and long-range science capabilities - Blue Ribbon Panel Review of this activity to be reported upon later in this session*

## *SOFIA Workshop Schedule*

- *“SOFIA’s 2020 Vision: Scientific and Technological Opportunities.”*  
*6-8 December, 2007, CIT, Pasadena. White Paper available at:*  
[http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/07Dec\\_SOFIA\\_Vision/SOFIA\\_2020Vision\\_white\\_paper\\_final.pdf](http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/07Dec_SOFIA_Vision/SOFIA_2020Vision_white_paper_final.pdf)
- *“Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA I”, 211th AAS Meeting, Austin, TX, January 8, 2008. Draft White Paper Produced.*
- *“Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA II”, 212th AAS Meeting, St. Louis, MO, June 1, 2008. White Paper available at:*  
[http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/workshops/Early-Science\\_Opportunities\\_with\\_SOFIA\\_v6.0.pdf](http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/workshops/Early-Science_Opportunities_with_SOFIA_v6.0.pdf)
- *“Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA III”, 213th AAS Meeting, Long Beach, CA, January 4, 2009. Aircraft Tour, Presentation of draft “SOFIA New Science Vision Report”*
- *“Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA IV”, 214th AAS Meeting, Pasadena, CA, June 7, 2009. Aircraft Tour, Presentation of final version of “SOFIA New Science Vision Report”*

## *Objectives of “Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA III”*

- *Inform the Astronomical Community about the status of the SOFIA Project and the General Observer (GO) science program*
- *Present the preliminary results of the “SOFIA New Science Vision” activity and solicit community comment*
- *Present the findings of a recent Blue Ribbon Panel Review of the “SOFIA New Science Vision” activity*

# *Agenda for “Early Science Opportunities with SOFIA III”*

*8:00 AM – 2:00 PM: Tour of SOFIA at the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center Aircraft Operations Facility in Palmdale, CA – hosted by SOFIA Project personnel*

*2:30 PM: Introduction - Bob Gehrz*

*2:40 PM: SOFIA program update - Eric Becklin*

*3:00 PM: The SOFIA New Science Vision activity and the Blue Ribbon Panel Review - Tom Roellig*

*3:20 PM: Presentations of highlights from the four New Science Vision science themes:*

*Planetary - Dana Backman*

*Extra-galactic - Bill Vacca*

*Star Formation - Jim De Buizer*

*ISM - Margaret Meixner*

*4:40 PM : Blue Ribbon Panel report summary - John Mather*

*5:00 PM: Closing comments and adjournment - Bob Gehrz*