

Outreach Activities

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(SOFIA/USRA)

6th Meeting of the SOFIA Users Group ; October 20, 2014

Topics in this presentation

Introduction: the Science Outreach Group.

SOFIA presence and participation in the American Astronomical Society (AAS) Meetings.

Plans for an Observers' Workshop in May 2015.

SOFIA Community Tele-Talks.

Science webpages.

Questions for the SOFIA Users Group.

Science Outreach Group

The Science Outreach Group (SOG) was formed in September 2013, as part of a transition away from the SOFIA Community Task Force (SCTF). The SOG consists of SOFIA staff scientists, members from the program management, and from SOFIA Public Outreach.

SOG Tasks

- (i) Keeping track of conferences of relevance to SOFIA, organizing participation or otherwise providing visibility for the Observatory at these conferences.
- (ii) Organizing talks about SOFIA at universities and other institutions.
- (iii) Planning SOFIA workshops and splinter sessions at the AAS meetings.
- (iv) Identifying other activities in which SOG members can usefully participate to highlight SOFIA science and capabilities.

SOFIA Talks Institutions List

Friday, October 17, 2014

The following table lists the institutions where the Science Outreach Group should plan to send speakers regularly, perhaps once a year, to present SOFIA talks.
Assigned contacts volunteered during October 8 and 15 meetings.

Institution	Last Talk ; Speaker	Assigned contact*	Notes
Caltech/IPAC	07/2014 ; Becklin		
Harvard/SAO	04/2013 ; Becklin	Reach	
JHU/STScI	03/2011 ; Young	Sankrit	CAS seminar
Northwestern		Vaillancourt	
Ohio State Univ.	03/2010 ; Becklin	Helton	Astronomy colloquium
Univ. of Arizona/NOAO	06/2011 ; Becklin	Helton, Young	Joint Steward/NOAO colloquium
UC Berkeley	05/2010 ; Gehrz	Sankrit	Thursday lunch talks, RAL seminar
Univ. of Chicago	11/2008 ; Gehrz	Vaillancourt	
Univ. of Michigan		Zinnecker	Astronomy colloquium
UT Austin		Sankrit	Stellar ; Planets/ISM ; ExGal seminars
Univ. of Virginia/NRAO	03/2012 ; Zinnecker	Reach	

* Assigned contact may change, and does not necessarily have to be the speaker.

SOFIA at the AAS Meetings

The baseline plan -

SOFIA booth at all AAS meetings, with personnel available to answer questions and provide help to users and potential users of the Observatory.

SOFIA splinter session or Town Hall at all winter meetings.
(We will be holding a splinter session at the January 2014 Seattle AAS.)

Possible modifications and additions -

Splinter session at a summer meeting, as did take place at the June 2014 Boston AAS.

Mini-workshop either at the booth, or in a separate venue.

Special session highlighting SOFIA science; this would be part of the main scientific program.
(January 2016 in Florida a possible target?)

SOFIA Observers' Workshop, May 2015

provisional LOC: B-G Andersson, A. Boogert, A. Helton, R. Sankrit

Workshop contents -

Information about SOFIA, its instruments and capabilities, and the proposal process at a range of levels, suitable for new and experienced users of the Observatory, and for infra-red experts and non-experts.

Scientific results from SOFIA, both as demonstration of its capabilities as well as to spur interest and excitement about its potential.

Data analysis session(s) -

Each (parallel) session will be for one instrument, and the participants will be restricted to GIs who have calibrated SOFIA data using that instrument.

These sessions are expected to be *independent* of the workshop, but scheduled immediately preceding or following it so as to make travel convenient.

SOFIA Community Forum Tele-Talks

organized by Dan Lester (U.Texas,Austin), and supported by R. Sankrit (SOFIA/USRA)

<http://spirit.as.utexas.edu/~dan/SOFIAteletalk/agenda.htm>

<http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/SCF/>

SOFIA Community Tele-Talk Series

877-282-9257 Pass-code 874584# (international access to this number is free on Skype)

URL for slides: click on title below, or return to the updated [agenda page](#) and do so, or click here for DropBox if active link -- ▲
Slides may not be available until an hour or so before the talk.

Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:00am PDT 6:00pm CEST

Title: TBD

Presenter: Raghvendra Sahai (NASA JPL)

Abstract: TBD

Future tele-talks (Wednesdays 9am PT, provisional schedule):

November 26:	Xander Tielens (Leiden Observatory)
December 3:	Göran Sandell (SOFIA Science Center)
December 17:	Pasquale Temi (SOFIA Science Center)

If you'd like to be on (or off) the mailing list for this telecon, please go [here](#).

Comments about the SOFIA teletalk series should be directed to Dan Lester dfl@astro.as.utexas.edu or Ravi Sankrit rsankrit@sofia.usra.edu.

The SOFIA Community Tele-Talk Series is organized under the auspices of the SOFIA Science Center. Tele-Talk archive for older presentations is [here](#).

The SOFIA Science Center website is [here](#).
 And, just for fun ... recent SOFIA flight track maps can be viewed [here](#).

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SOFIA Community Forum (SCF) Teletalks

The SOFIA Community tele-talks are colloquia presented over the telephone, with slides distributed ahead of time. The talks are targeted broadly towards members of the astronomy community who are interested in SOFIA science and in the current and potential scientific capabilities of the observatory. The talks are held approximately twice a month. The series is being organized by Dan Lester (Univ. of Texas, Austin). For information on how to participate in the teletalks, please check the [SOFIA Tele-talk page](#).

If you would like to be on the mailing list for this telecon, please contact Dan Lester dfl@astro.as.utexas.edu or Ravi Sankrit rsankrit@sofia.usra.edu.

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Logos: SOFIA, NASA, DLR, USRA, OSU, SETI Institute, etc.

Eddie Zavala, NASA SOFIA Program Manager, NASA Armstrong
 Erick Young, USRA Science Mission Operations Director, NASA Ames

<http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/publications/>

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If you are an author looking for information regarding proper acknowledgements for the use of SOFIA data or appropriate citations, please see the [Information for Authors](#) page.

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SOFIA Science Archive

48. "Dusty Cradles in a Turbulent Nursery: The Sgr A East H II Region Complex at the Galactic Center", Lau, R. M., et al., 2014, ApJ, 794, 108.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/794/2/108>; [ADS]

47. "The SOFIA Observatory at the Start of Routine Science Operations: Mission Capabilities and Performance", Temi, P., et al., 2014, ApJS, 212, 24.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0067-0049/212/2/24>; [ADS]

46. "A Far-IR View of the Starburst-driven Superwind in NGC 2146", Kreckel, K., et al., 2014, ApJ 790, 26.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/790/1/26>; [ADS]

45. "Nature versus Nurture: Luminous Blue Variable Nebulae in and near Massive Stellar Clusters at the Galactic Center", Lau, R. M.; Herter, T. L.; Morris, M. R.; Adams, J. D., 2014, ApJ, 785, 120.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/785/2/120>; [ADS]

44. "Mid-infrared Imaging of the Bipolar Planetary Nebula M2-9 from SOFIA", Werner, M. W., et al., 2014, ApJ, 780, 156.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/780/2/156>; [ADS]

43. "Data Reduction and Early Science Calibration for FORCAST, A Mid-Infrared Camera for SOFIA", Herter, T. L., et al., 2013, PASP, 125, 1393.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1086/674144>; [ADS]

42. "The 2011 June 23 Stellar Occultation by Pluto: Airborne and Ground Observations", Person, M. J., et al., 2013, AJ, 146, 83.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-6256/146/4/83>; [ADS]

41. "SOFIA/FORCAST Imaging of the Circumnuclear Ring at the Galactic Center", Lau, R. M., et al., 2013, ApJ, 775, 37.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/775/1/37>; [ADS]

40. "SOFIA: first science highlights and future science potential", Zinnecker, H., 2013, AN, 334, 558.
DOI Unavailable [ADS]

39. "A Massive Protostar Forming by Ordered Collapse of a Dense, Massive Core", Zhang, Y., et al., 2013, ApJ, 767, 58.
DOI: [10.1088/0004-637X/767/1/58](http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/767/1/58); [ADS]

<http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/workshops/>

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Information for Researchers

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Workshops

This web page contains information about upcoming workshops and links to presentations from past workshops. Please note that some of the information contained in these presentations may have since been updated.

PAST WORKSHOPS

2014, June, 224th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Boston - SOFIA Splinter Session

[Presentations](#)

2014, January, 223rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Washington, DC- SOFIA Splinter Session

[Presentations](#)

2013, January, 221st Meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Long Beach, CA - SOFIA Town Hall Session

[Presentations](#)

2012, June, 220th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Anchorage, AK.

[Presentations](#)

2012, January, 219th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Austin, TX Early Science Results from the SOFIA Observatory

[Presentations](#)


2011, November 7-8, SOFIA Workshop, NASA Ames, Moffett Field, CA

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SOFIA Program General Overview

Observatory Overview and Specifications	pptx (3.8 MB)
First Generation Instruments	pptx (9.36 MB)

Much of the content in the presentations above was derived from talks given by E. Becklin, R. Gehrz and others at various institutions. The complete presentations are available in the [Speakers Bureau Archive](#).

Recent SOFIA Science Results

A number of recent SOFIA science results have been presented as part of a series of SOFIA Splinter Sessions at the biannual AAS meetings. Below are links to some of these recent results. For earlier presentations, please see the [SOFIA Workshops](#) page.

[AAS 224 - 2014 June - Boston, MA](#)
[AAS 223 - 2014 January - Washington, D.C.](#)

A Sample of SOFIA Early Science Results

These results have been derived from the published literature and have been included in various SOFIA presentations. Authors of other Early Science papers are encouraged to send us a 1-2 page summary of their work for inclusion on this page. Links to the papers on Early Science results may be found on the [publications](#) page.

Questions for the SOFIA Users Group

Q1. What kind of presentations would you suggest for the SOFIA Community tele-talks? Please give examples, and make them as specific as possible.

Q2. Data analysis support is resource-intensive (personnel and time). As between workshop sessions for several participants and individual help to a small number of visitors to the SOFIA Science Center, which is the better option?

Q3. The splinter sessions at the AAS typically cover program and mission updates, brief descriptions of new capabilities and are interspersed with science results. Is there any other topic or issue that we should consider including in these 1-1.5 hour sessions?