





Outreach Activities

Ravi Sankrit (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

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

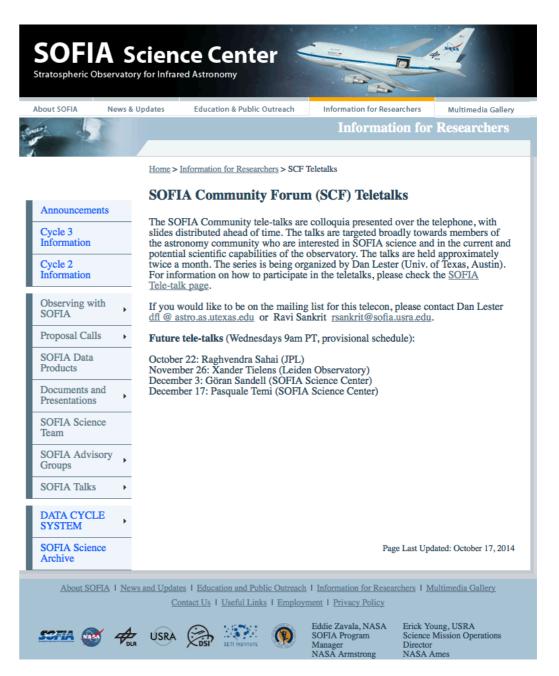
Comments about the SOFIA teletalk series should be directed to Dan Lester dfl @ astro.as.utexas.edu or Ravi Sankrit rsankrit@sofia.usra.edu.

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.

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





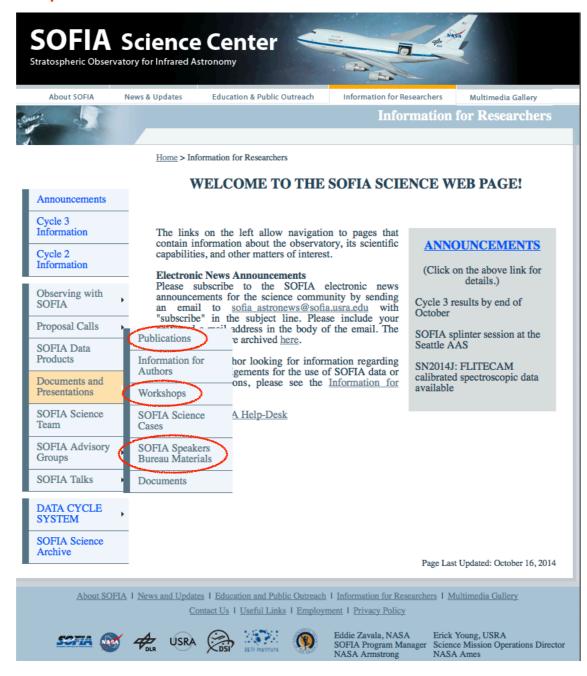




Science Webpages

maintained by R. Sankrit and A. Helton

http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/

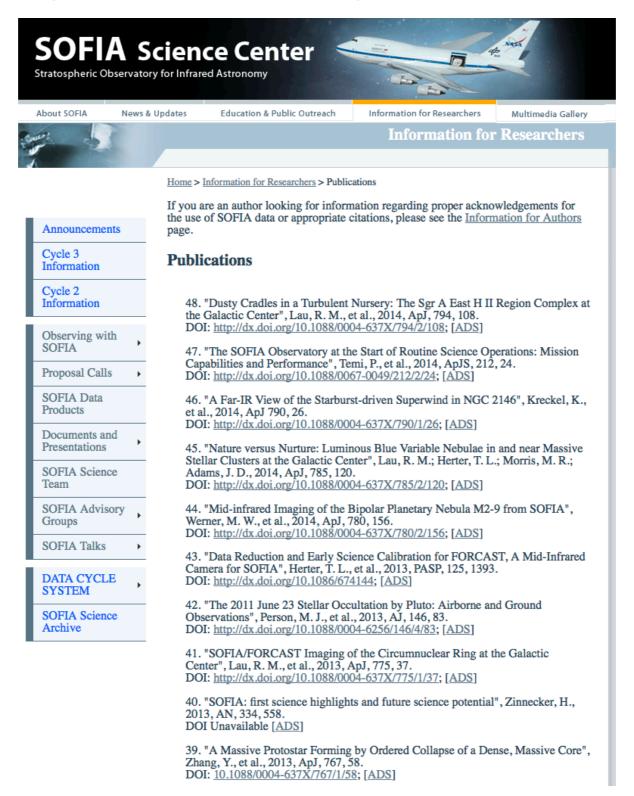








http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/publications/









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









http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Science/speakers/

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 interpersed with science results. Is there any other topic or issue that we should consider including in these 1-1.5 hour sessions?