

‘Traditional’ OPTICON TNA

The purpose of TNA is to provide free access to users who do not have suitable national infrastructures (telescopes and instruments) of their own.



John Davies. The OPTICON TNA Programme
EWASS 2017 Prague





OPTICON

Trans-national Access Programme



www.astro-opticon.org

Philosophy

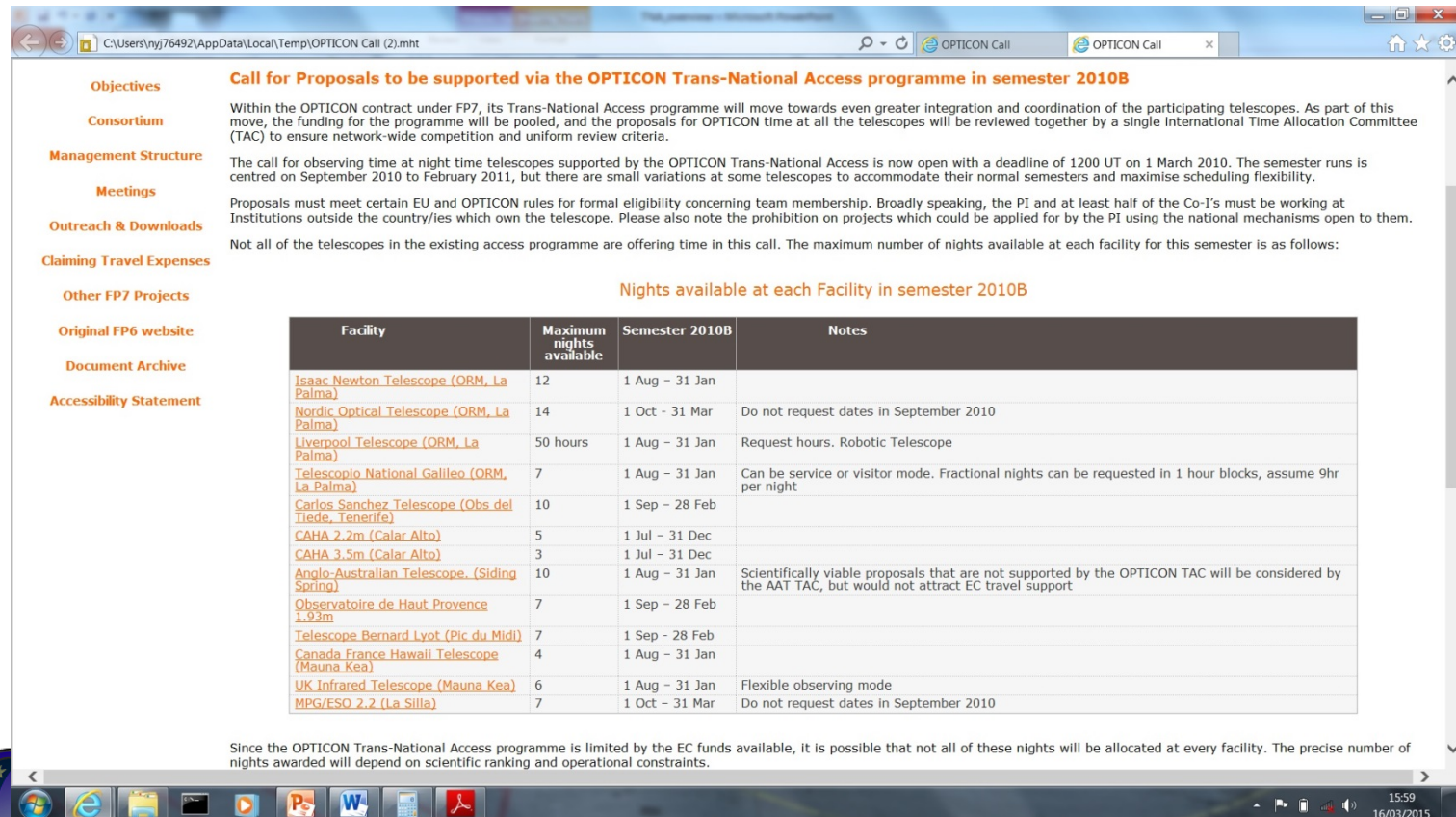
- Use a single OPTICON TAC comprising 7 different nationalities allocating time across the whole network using a single proposal system .
- Rank projects in science merit order and allocate time until the resources available for that semester runs out
- Give successful qualifying applicants travel support
- Telescopes receive ‘user fees’ based on user demand, not pre-defined quotas. The user fees follow the best science



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TNA Call + mailshot



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the OPTICON Call for Proposals page. The page has a left sidebar with navigation links: Objectives, Consortium, Management Structure, Meetings, Outreach & Downloads, Claiming Travel Expenses, Other FP7 Projects, Original FP6 website, Document Archive, and Accessibility Statement. The main content area is titled "Call for Proposals to be supported via the OPTICON Trans-National Access programme in semester 2010B". It contains text about the programme's goals, the call's timeline (deadline 1200 UT on 1 March 2010), and eligibility rules. A table titled "Nights available at each Facility in semester 2010B" lists various telescopes and their available observing time. Below the table, a note states that the programme is limited by EC funds and that not all nights will be allocated at every facility.

Call for Proposals to be supported via the OPTICON Trans-National Access programme in semester 2010B

Within the OPTICON contract under FP7, its Trans-National Access programme will move towards even greater integration and coordination of the participating telescopes. As part of this move, the funding for the programme will be pooled, and the proposals for OPTICON time at all the telescopes will be reviewed together by a single international Time Allocation Committee (TAC) to ensure network-wide competition and uniform review criteria.

The call for observing time at night time telescopes supported by the OPTICON Trans-National Access is now open with a deadline of 1200 UT on 1 March 2010. The semester runs is centred on September 2010 to February 2011, but there are small variations at some telescopes to accommodate their normal semesters and maximise scheduling flexibility.

Proposals must meet certain EU and OPTICON rules for formal eligibility concerning team membership. Broadly speaking, the PI and at least half of the Co-I's must be working at Institutions outside the country/ies which own the telescope. Please also note the prohibition on projects which could be applied for by the PI using the national mechanisms open to them.

Not all of the telescopes in the existing access programme are offering time in this call. The maximum number of nights available at each facility for this semester is as follows:

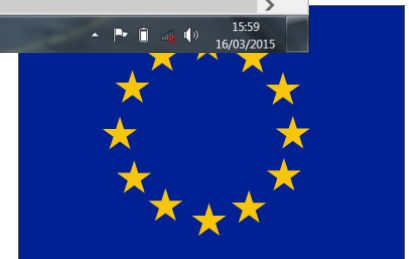
Nights available at each Facility in semester 2010B

Facility	Maximum nights available	Semester 2010B	Notes
Isaac Newton Telescope (ORM, La Palma)	12	1 Aug – 31 Jan	
Nordic Optical Telescope (ORM, La Palma)	14	1 Oct – 31 Mar	Do not request dates in September 2010
Liverpool Telescope (ORM, La Palma)	50 hours	1 Aug – 31 Jan	Request hours. Robotic Telescope
Telescopio Nacional Galileo (ORM, La Palma)	7	1 Aug – 31 Jan	Can be service or visitor mode. Fractional nights can be requested in 1 hour blocks, assume 9hr per night
Carlos Sanchez Telescope (Obs del Tiede, Tenerife)	10	1 Sep – 28 Feb	
CAHA 2.2m (Calar Alto)	5	1 Jul – 31 Dec	
CAHA 3.5m (Calar Alto)	3	1 Jul – 31 Dec	
Anglo-Australian Telescope (Siding Spring)	10	1 Aug – 31 Jan	Scientifically viable proposals that are not supported by the OPTICON TAC will be considered by the AAT TAC, but would not attract EC travel support
Observatoire de Haut Provence 1.93m	7	1 Sep – 28 Feb	
Telescope Bernard Lyot (Pic du Midi)	7	1 Sep – 28 Feb	
Canada France Hawaii Telescope (Mauna Kea)	4	1 Aug – 31 Jan	
UK Infrared Telescope (Mauna Kea)	6	1 Aug – 31 Jan	Flexible observing mode
MPG/ESO 2.2 (La Silla)	7	1 Oct – 31 Mar	Do not request dates in September 2010

Since the OPTICON Trans-National Access programme is limited by the EC funds available, it is possible that not all of these nights will be allocated at every facility. The precise number of nights awarded will depend on scientific ranking and operational constraints.



Calls open each February and August
See www.astro-opticon.org



The magnificent seven

Annelies Mortier
Cambridge



John Davies
Edinburgh



Helene Roussel
Paris



Roi Alonso
La Laguna



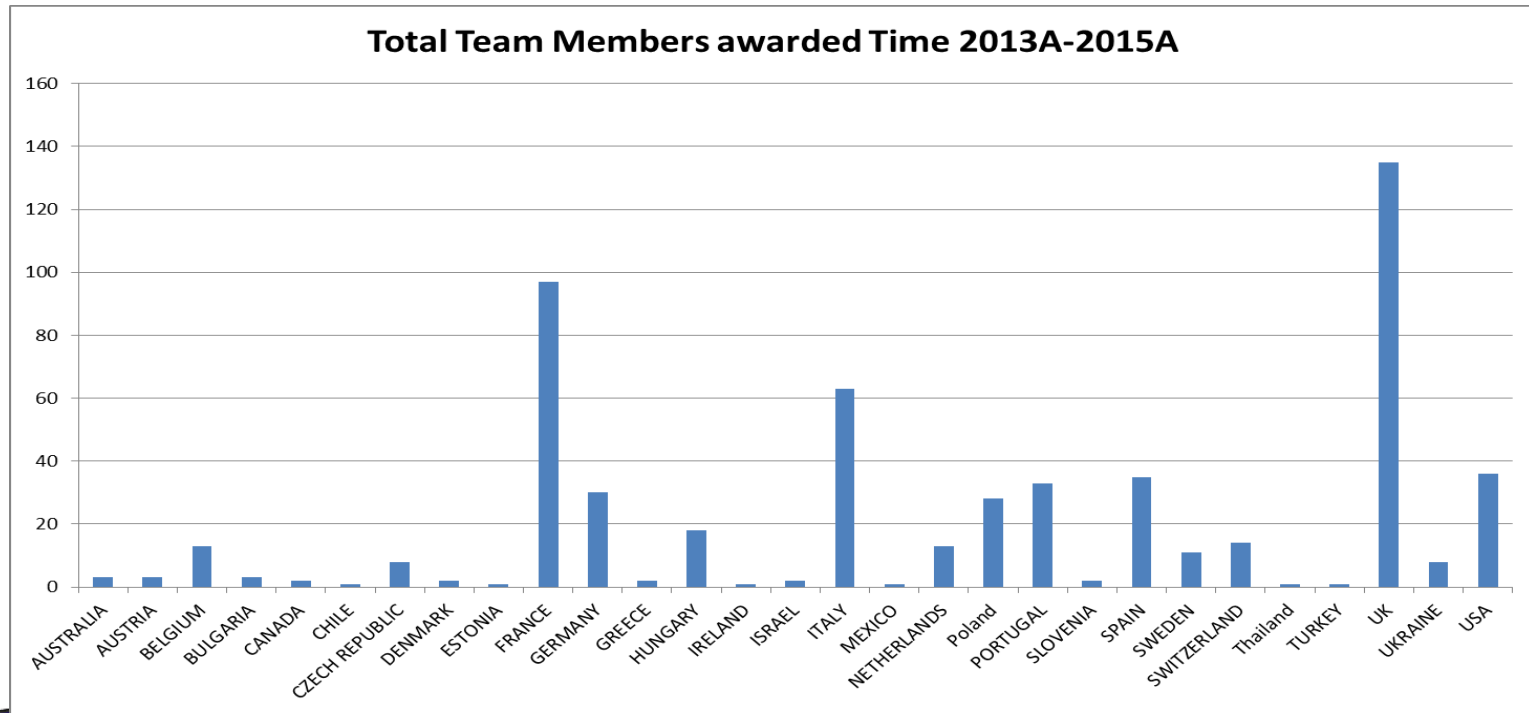
Laura Affer
Palermo

Jochen Heidt
Heidelberg

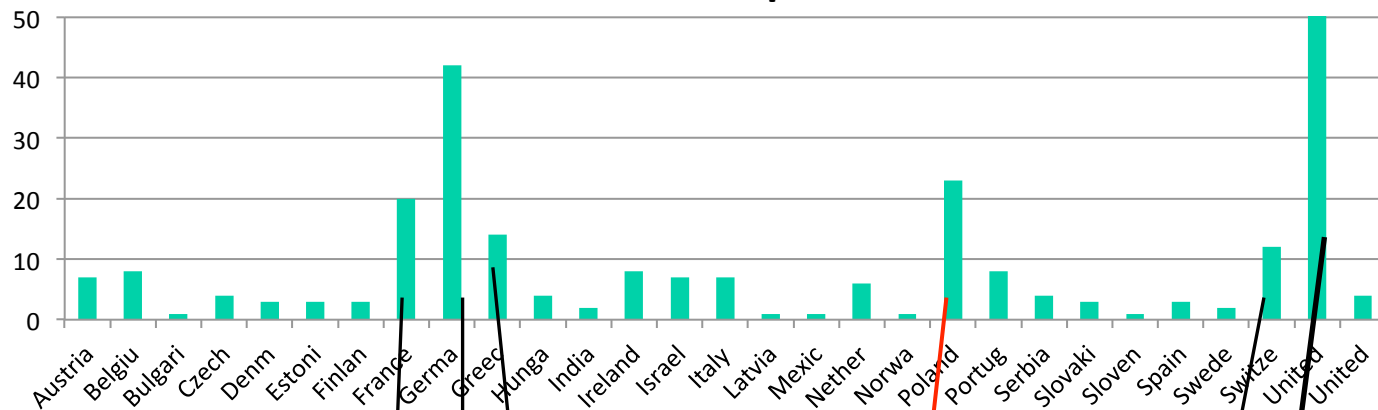
Renata Minkeviciute
Vilnius



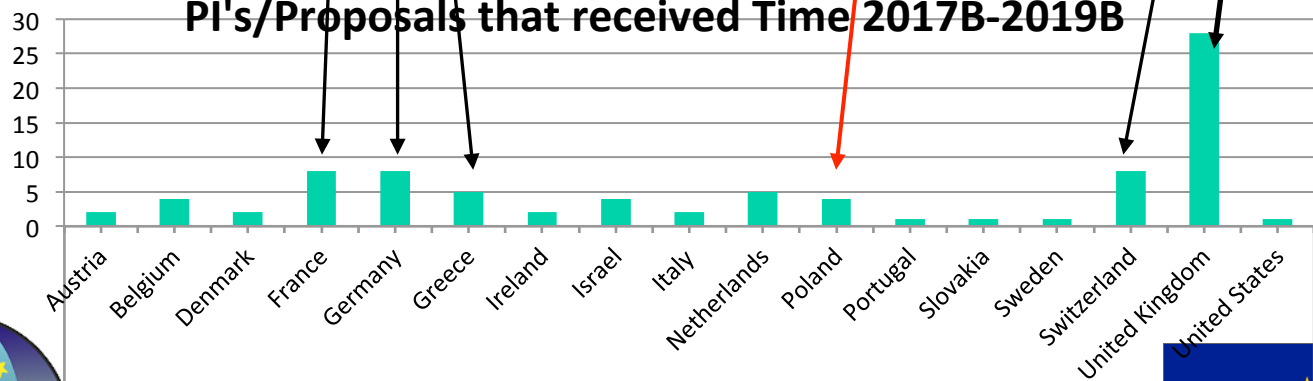
In FP7 OPTICON had 497 proposals, about 60 per semester.
The oversubscription (pressure factor) is about 3.5



PI's across all Proposals 2017B-2019B



PI's/Proposals that received Time 2017B-2019B



PI



Since 2010B

1034 proposals

- ESO countries success rate 33%
- Non-ESO European countries success rate 16%
- Non-European countries success rate 25%
- ESO Countries 867 proposals
- Non-ESO European countries 131 proposals
- Non European countries 36 proposals



TDA projects approved via CTAC

- Supernova followup - INT, WHT, TNG
- e-Pessto - LCO
- GAIA transients - NOT, LCO, REM, LT
- Fast radio burst - REM
- Tidal disruptions -LT, TNG
- Stellar mergers -TNG,LT,NOT,REM, TCS,LCO
- Luminosity gap transients -NOT
- Blazar Monitoring -NOT



TNA in the PILOT

- Continued access to our existing network, probably including the SALT 10m
- Joint projects with TBD radio telescopes via a single submission process
- New ways of doing TDA using small, self funded telescopes – your ideas welcome.
- 2-3 New CTAC members needed in 2021



Next call: February 2020!



FIN



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