

Implementation of NSF Senior Review 2007 Annual Meeting Roundtable Discussion

- Our community endorses NSF support for a "range of apertures", including the current 2-8m telescopes (NOAO, Gemini, and the System/TSIP/AODP).
- Many AURA institutions suggest the value of smaller telescopes (1-2m) needed for community research, surveys, instrument development, and student training. We support (financially prudent) progress toward larger projects (LSST and GSMT), including 20-40m telescopes at the cutting edge of the international research agenda.
- NOAO will continue to reconnect with its constituency: 2-8m telescope infrastructure; data products/archiving, partner-built instruments; NOAO's new role as the "National Program Manager" for GSMT initiative and support for LSST telescope/site through the NSF/MREFC review.
- AURA should convince NSF to complete Advanced Technology Solar Telescope (ATST), which has long been in a state of readiness. We want ATST to "clear the queue" for NSF/MRE (Major Research Equipment) funding prior to re-prioritization of uncompleted projects in the 2009-2010 Decadal Survey.