

AGREEMENT

December 11, 1984

This document clarifies the August 7, 1968 implementation of the 1961 cooperative agreement between AURA and the University of Chile.

1. Staff members and students of the Astronomy Department at the University of Chile are qualified to apply for observing time at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory (CTIO) as specified in the August 7, 1968 implementation agreement. Such staff members may include outside astronomers on visiting appointments at the Astronomy Department of the University of Chile and members of the Department that may be on leave of absence or studying outside Chile. That department via its Chairman should specify whom it considers to be staff members.
2. The Chairman of the U. of Chile Astronomy Department will identify those proposals being submitted under the terms of this agreement; any others will be considered as normal visitor proposals.
3. The proposals will be reviewed according to the rules and procedures followed for all proposals from CTIO staff members and visitors. This procedure consists of a) review by CTIO staff for technical feasibility and need, b) consultation of external referees, and c) evaluation and ranking by the CTIO Telescope Assignment Committee (TAC). The CTIO

TAC rates the proposals; it makes use of its own experience as well as of the staff and referee comments. As such, it is the CTIO TAC that makes the evaluation of the proposal; the staff and referee comments are only part of the review process. The CTIO TAC is an advisory committee to the CTIO Director. Since the TAC review follows the NSF peer-review guideline, the Director only changes TAC's evaluation in exceptional cases when it is deemed wise to do so according to new information.

4. In the case of the proposals requesting time under this implementation agreement, the CTIO TAC will identify those it considers having sufficient merit to be worthy of receiving telescope time. These proposals will receive time up to the 10% of total time in each telescope as indicated in the existing agreement; it is understood that the 10% is to be spread evenly over lunar phase and season. Here, the level of merit shall be set without consideration of possible oversubscription factors that may occur. In CTIO's present ranking system, the merit level will normally be less than the value 3.0 on a scale of 1 (excellent) to 5 (poor). Note that the number of nights assigned to a proposal or lunar phase may differ from those requested if TAC determines that the requested number of nights or lunar phase were not justified.
5. CTIO will notify the U. of Chile Astronomy Department of the results of the TAC evaluation prior to fixing the telescope

schedules in the event there is a question about priority or suitability, number of nights or lunar phase of proposals submitted under the agreement. Since early decisions are essential, the U. of Chile Astronomy Department will respond within 48 hours.

6. As specified in the August 7, 1968 agreement and in accordance with its Inter-American character, CTIO will also consider observational proposals from other Chilean and Latin American astronomers not related to the U. of Chile. Such proposals will be reviewed and treated in the same way as other visitor proposals.
7. This agreement applies to the time scheduled by CTIO on all telescopes currently in existence and available for programs by visitors which are in use in any given semester.
8. Paragraph N° 1 of the August 7, 1968 implementation agreement is hereby declared void since CTIO does not any longer maintain in regular operation a 16-inch telescope.



Patrick S. Osmer

Director, CTIO

December 11, 1984


Jorge May

Chairman, Astronomy Department