

	
Project (Grant) Number:	824135
Project Acronym:	SOLARNET
Project Title:	Integrating High Resolution Solar Physics

Document Details	
Document Title	1 st Report on the activities of the EAST TAC and promotion of the Access programmes
Prepared by (Institution's Name):	Stockholms Universitet (SU)
Work Package (WP) Number & Title	WP2: Coordination for improved exploitation of solar physics infrastructure
Deliverable Number & Title:	D2.1 - 1st Report on the activities of the EAST TAC and promotion of the Access programmes
Serial Number of Deliverable:	D7
Document Code (inserted by project office)	D2.1_Version 1.0
File Name (inserted by project office)	SOLARNET_D2.1_V1.0_TAC_Public_20200629
Date Uploaded (inserted by project office)	June 29 th , 2020

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HISTORY OF DOCUMENT CHANGES

Issue	Date	Change Description
Version 1.0	June 29 th , 2020	Initial Issue

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List of Abbreviations (if applicable)

CSCS	Centro Svizzero di Calcolo Scientifico
EAST	European Association for Solar Telescopes
SST	Swedish 1-m Solar Telescope
TAC	Time Allocation Committee
THEMIS	Télescope Héliographique pour l’Etude du Magnetisme et des Instabilités Solaires
VTT	Vacuum Tower Telescope

EAST TAC

The EAST TAC was formed in 2008, thus before also the FP7 version of SOLARNET. It now serves as the Selection Panel for the SOLARNET Trans-National Access Programme under H2020. It also distributes other observing time, like the International Time Programme on a few telescopes at the Canarian observatories (GREGOR, THEMIS, VTT).

The panel is set up exactly as defined in Appendix 1 of the grant agreement. There is one representative for each telescope operator on the Canaries, thus three members from KIS (GREGOR+VTT), SU (SST), and CNRS (THEMIS). In addition, the chair of the Spanish TAC which distributes Spanish time on these telescopes is a member. For the H2020 SOLARNET one new member from MPG (Sunrise 3) and one from USI/IRSOL (Piz Daint) have been co-opted to the EAST TAC. The current list of members is thus:

Dan Kiselman, chair	SU	SST
Bernard Gelly	CNRS	THEMIS
Elena Khomenko	IAC	Spanish TAC
Lucia Kleint	KIS	GREGOR, VTT
Andreas Lagg	MPG	SUNRISE3
Oskar Steiner	USI/IRSOL	Piz Daint

The EAST TAC relies heavily on external referees. For each call, two referees are recruited from a pool of distinguished scientists and asked to grade and rank the proposals. The EAST TAC takes the final decision based on this ranking, but it also checks the formal eligibility and technical feasibility of the proposals and has the possibility to apply the biases indicated in the GA (promote new users and new communities) – typically as tiebreakers for proposals which are closely ranked.

For Piz Daint, the application procedure has to be more complicated and it took some effort and several telecons to develop it since the EAST TAC was new to computer time allocation. Application involves two steps. First, the prospective proposers get a test account in order to make sure that their codes can run and to run necessary benchmarks. Then the full proposal is submitted. This undergoes eligibility vetting and then scientific evaluation and ranking. The top-ranked proposals will then undergo technical review by CSCS to make sure that they can make efficient use of the supercomputer. After that the final decision is taken.

Activities

The following meetings were held by the EAST TAC:

Jan/Feb 2019: Discussions and decision via email correspondence on Call 2019A (SST, GREGOR, THEMIS, VTT).

14 Jun 2019: Telecon on Call 2019B (GREGOR, VTT).

Nov/Dec 2019: Discussions and decision via email correspondence on Call 2019PD (Piz Daint).

31 Jan 2020: Telecon on Call 2020 (SST, THEMIS), also other issues discussed.

23-26 April 2020: Discussions and decision via email correspondence on Call 2020A (GREGOR, VTT).

Between these occasions, the EAST TAC has been in frequent contact to discuss coming calls, interpretations of rules, and other matters.

Promotion of the Access Programmes

The Trans-national Access Programme is described on the project web site. Calls are advertised via several channels:

SOLARNET web site – All advertising points to this site for the full information about the call.

Direct email sent to all key persons in the SOLARNET project.

Twitter – @estsolarnet

Meetings – Promotion takes place at most SOLARNET meetings.

SolarNews – An email newsletter with an archive that is issued by the US National Solar Observatory. In practice this channel has the greatest impact in the community and it is hard for others to compete with it.

The Virtual Access Programme is regularly being advertised at summer schools, especially schools where solar data are used. Further promotional activities are planned for when new data are being made available (e.g. SST data from SOLARNET campaigns and simulation data from SOLARNET access).