
LSC Council Meeting

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LSC Council Meeting Agenda



- LIGO Thesis Prize
- Publication Policy revisions
- Progress on LSC/Lab restructuring
 - » Call for nominations to LIGO Oversight Committee
 - » Report on MOU Review Panel
 - » Discussion of proposed new LSC Charter

A biannual prize for the outstanding Ph.D. thesis written based on research carried out within LIGO (Lab or LSC.)

Either within an LSC member institution or in collaboration with one.

Theses judged on

- » Originality and creativity of research
- » Importance to field of gravitational wave detection, broadly defined
- » Clarity of presentation.

Prize includes

- » Certificate
- » Travel to LSC meeting to receive award
- » Cash award of \$1500

LIGO Thesis Prize (details)

First round to cover these from 1 June 03 to 31 May 05.

Nominations to Spokesperson by 1 June 05.

Spokesperson appoints selection committee, avoiding conflicts of interest with nominated candidates.

First LIGO Thesis Prize to be awarded at August LSC meeting at LHO.

Call for nominations to LIGO Oversight Committee



The augmented LIGO Oversight Committee adds two classes of new members:

- » Two “technical advisors” elected by the LSC Council.
- » Full members from “stakeholder” institutions.

Let’s start the process of getting these new members named. Proposal:

1. Nominations for technical advisor be sent to Nominating Committee soon. (Date?)
2. Nominating Committee checks who would be willing to serve.
3. All names submitted to LSC Council for an email vote. The two candidates with the most votes elected.
4. First place gets two-year term. Second place gets the one-year term necessary to allow staggering of terms.

From the Charter of the LIGO Oversight Committee:

A major stakeholder is an institution with a very significant institutional resource commitment to the operation, exploitation, and/or further development of LIGO; the resources may be financial, material, or manpower, but the success of LIGO must be a high priority for the stakeholder, and the participation of the stakeholder very important to LIGO. The major stakeholder institutions will be identified by the Caltech, MIT, and LSC members of the Oversight committee, and will be re-evaluated every year. The appointees from major stakeholder institutions cannot be members of the LSC.

Starting to identify stakeholders

Although stakeholder institutions are chosen by the Oversight Committee itself, we can help the process along.

Proposal: PI's should suggest their institution (if interested) by sending a brief statement to Stan Whitcomb (by April 15) explaining how their institution meets the criteria in the Oversight Committee Charter.

The statement should be countersigned by a responsible official (e.g. Department Chair, Dean, ...) who commits to naming a member, if selected.

MOU Review: Looking forward

- We need a statement on how we want PI's to report FTE's.
Principle: report the fraction of *available research time* committed by person to MOU-related work.
- We need to clarify who should qualify for authorship on observational papers.
Principle: “contribution equivalent to someone in LIGO Lab”, interpreted to mean 50% or larger commitment of available research time to LSC-related work.
- We need to be pro-active in finding ways to encourage members to contribute to crucial tasks.
Including “service work”, broadly defined.

MOU Review: Looking forward (2)

The MOU Review Panel will meet again in August.
Thereafter, expect to switch to annual review.

Other task: Construction of LSC's part of LIGO annual
Work Plan and Progress Report.

We'll make our first try at that in August.