



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 15, 2007

TO: The LIGO Scientific Collaboration
FROM: The LSC Publications and Presentations Committee
SUBJECT: New LSC Review Procedures
Refer to: LIGO-M060334-01-Z

One of the provisions of the LSC Bylaws is the creation of a Publications and Presentations Committee. Among other functions, the P&P committee is charged with:

- maintaining a public archive of publications and presentations
- managing the reviews of LSC technical publications and conference proceedings
- managing reviews of abstracts and presentations at conferences
- nominating speakers for conferences

This memorandum outlines the specific procedures and timelines for LSC members to follow with regard to **observational papers, technical papers, abstracts, and presentations.**

1. Observational Papers

Reviews for observational papers are handled by review committees for the individual data analysis groups and as such are not covered here. Instead, we lay out a specific time line for the steps to publication. If, at some stage in the review, major changes in a manuscript are required, the Spokesperson may extend the time line, or suggest that we go back to a previous step and re-solicit comments.

1. **The author list.** The composition of the author list is specified in the LSC Publication Policy (T010168, latest revision). Before publicly posting a manuscript, the analysis groups should confirm that they have the latest author list. This can generally be found at <http://www.ligo.org/> (documents), but a final check with the Spokesperson and LSC Election and Membership Committee to make sure should be done.
2. **Presenting the results to the collaboration.** The analysis group makes a presentation at an LSC meeting with (what they believe are) the final results of the analysis. This presentation must be preceded by making a complete manuscript available to the collaboration **at least three days** prior to the presentation. It is probably optimistic to hope that the analysis and the manuscript will be universally accepted without comment from the collaboration; however this should be the goal.

3. **Two week period for comment from the collaboration.** Following the presentation, there will be (at least) a two week period for comment from the collaboration at large. Comments should be directed to the analysis group chairs, the LSC spokesperson and the Analysis Committee Chair. The analysis group chairs should see that the review panel has access to the comments. During this period, all members (including the Executive Committee and the Review Panels, etc.) should make their opinions/suggestions about the manuscript known to the analysis groups.
4. **One-week period for analysis groups to address comments from collaboration.** The analysis groups will update the drafts to incorporate the comments/suggestions from the collaboration. [Clearly, if a major change is needed, the period can be extended and/or we can go back to step 2.]
5. **One-week period for reviewers to prepare a recommendation.** After the analysis groups have addressed the comments of the collaboration, the reviewers will make a recommendation about whether (or not) the paper should be published. The recommendation will be made to the LSC Executive Committee. Although this is a rather compressed period, most of the review work should already have been done.
6. **Meeting of the Executive Committee.** The LSC Executive Committee will meet to decide on whether or not the paper should be published. Normally, discussions will take place at the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee. The chairs of the review panels are invited to participate in this meeting. In reality, the decision will likely be a provisional approval, requiring some changes to the manuscript. The Executive Committee should lay out what steps need to be taken in order for the manuscript to be published.
 - The LIGO Lab has graciously agreed to pay the charges for **one page** of color figures in the journal, provided the LSC Executive Committee approves the request. A decision on color printing should be made at this meeting.
7. **One week period for groups to address recommendations from the Executive Committee.**
8. **One week period of final comment from the collaboration.** This final waiting period is an opportunity for the collaboration to look the paper over one last time. At this stage, comments should be limited to serious errors. It is too late for issues of style or suggestions on what should have been done.
9. **Two week period of limited distribution of the manuscript outside the collaboration.** Our GWIC colleagues request that we make the manuscript available for comment outside the collaboration before submitting to a journal. Nominally, this will be done by posting the paper on the gr-qc and/or astro-ph archive and informing GWIC that the paper is there, but the Executive Committee and the LSC Spokesperson may propose other mechanisms to meet this

requirement.

10. **Submitting to a Journal.** If there are no major modifications required/requested during the public posting period, the analysis group chairs should request final permission from the LSC spokesperson to submit the manuscript to the Journal.
11. **Sit and wait to hear from the journal.**
12. **Two week period for addressing the referee comments.** The analysis groups and their review panels should prepare a revised manuscript and response to the referee, and share these with the Spokesperson in draft form.
13. **One-week posting of referee reports, the response to the referee and the revised manuscript.** Provided the Spokesperson determines that the referee comments are “minor”, this period should be kept short. Once again, it is too late for issues of style or suggestions on what should have been done. At this stage, comments should be limited to serious errors.
14. **Re-submitting to the Journal.** The analysis group chairs should reconfirm with the LSC Spokesperson that everything is ok, and then resubmit the paper.

<i>Action/Step</i>	<i>Time Period</i>
Present initial manuscript to LSC	At least 3 days before presentation at LSC Meeting
LSC Comment Period	2 weeks
Analysis group revisions	1 week
Re-review of manuscript	1 week
Executive Committee approval	At monthly Executive Committee meeting
Analysis group revisions (if needed)	1 week
Final LSC comment period	1 week
Post on ArXiv; GWIC comment period	2 weeks
Submit to journal	Following GWIC comment period

2. Technical Papers and Conference Proceedings

The LSC Publication Policy (LIGO T010168, most recent version) in Section 3 describes the criteria for determining if a technical paper needs to go through the LSC review process. Briefly, if a paper contains instrumental data, if it was influenced by interactions with other LSC members or in working groups, or if it used LSC hardware and software resources for the purposes of analysis or design, the paper should go through a technical review.

2A. General Procedures

Technical papers are papers with limited author lists from LSC institutions that do not present observational (astrophysics) data or results. Conference proceedings can fall into this category present if they present previously published observational results. Review papers also fall into this category. The procedure for submitting and reviewing technical papers and conference proceedings is as follows:

- Obtain a LIGO ‘P’ number from the LIGO Document Control Center. DCC numbers are obtained by e-mailing dcc@ligo.caltech.edu providing the author list and title of the publication.
- Once the ‘P’ number has been obtained, send the manuscript to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu and to the DCC with the following:
 - a pdf of the manuscript
 - DCC number
 - name of the target journal or proceedings
 - suggestions for internal LSC reviewers qualified to review the paper.
- Once the paper has been received, it will be assigned an LSC editor from the P&P committee who will assign a reviewer. It will also be posted on the password-protected ligo.org Tekpaperz web page for comments from the LSC at large **for a two week period.**
 - In rare cases, an accelerated review may be requested. However, in the vast majority of cases, the two week period will be honored.
- At the end of a two week period, reviews and comments from the LSC will be sent back to the author. In most cases, the author is free to submit to a journal. In some cases, the LSC editor may ask to see the revised manuscript before submission. If a second review is required, the LSC editor will work to ensure an expedited review. Simultaneous with submission, an updated version of the paper should be submitted to the DCC for archival and reference.

2B. Special Procedures for Joint LIGO Lab - LSC Technical papers

For the special case where some of the authors are members of the LIGO Laboratory, additional procedures need to be followed. These procedures are detailed in the most recent version of LIGO-L950002. Specifically, the following steps are required:

- For technical archival journal publications involving both LIGO Lab and non-Lab authors, the LSC publications policy process (i.e., this procedure) is followed, with the added requirement that the manuscript be circulated (via web pointer) to the LIGO Lab staff one week in advance of submission to the journal for comments.
- All publications with any Lab authors must carry an appropriate acknowledgement of NSF support. Authors are personally responsible for ensuring that the following Acknowledgement is included on any paper on which their names appear (*verbatim*):

LIGO was constructed by the California Institute of Technology and Massachusetts Institute of Technology with funding from the National Science Foundation and operates under cooperative agreement PHY-

0107417. This paper has LIGO Document Number LIGO-< USE ACTUAL DCC# HERE >.

In addition to the LIGO Lab acknowledgment, papers may carry acknowledgment statements by other LSC institutions.

2C. Special Procedures for Conference Proceedings

For conference proceedings presenting observational results, the author list must be “John Doe Speaker for the LSC”. In addition, the following text must be used *verbatim* for the acknowledgment:

The authors gratefully acknowledge the support of the United States National Science Foundation for the construction and operation of the LIGO Laboratory and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council of the United Kingdom, the Max-Planck-Society and the State of Niedersachsen/Germany for support of the construction and operation of the GEO600 detector. The authors also gratefully acknowledge the support of the research by these agencies and by the Australian Research Council, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of India, the Department of Science and Technology of India, the Spanish Ministerio de Educacion y Ciencia, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Research Corporation, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

3. Presentations

3A. General guidelines for all presentations:

- Only results from LIGO/GEO data analysis that have been approved by the Collaboration Council (or the Executive Committee acting on behalf of the Council) may be shown publicly.
- Conference proceeding papers may only include observational results that have previously been published in a peer-reviewed journal or approved for presentation by the Council (or the Executive Committee).
- For presentations dealing with technical matters, talks may include slides with LIGO/GEO sensitivity curves and LIGO observational results that are already in the public domain (either published or already presented at major conferences or workshops).
- All presentations must have DCC G numbers assigned and visible on the viewgraphs at the time of the presentation. A G number can be obtained by any Collaboration member via <http://antares.ligo.caltech.edu/dcc/numdefault.hf>.
- Final versions of presentations should be submitted to the DCC as soon as possible after the presentation.

The following procedures should be followed by all LSC members for approval of presentations. **A summary of the steps timetables involved is given at the end of this section.**

3B. Procedures for All Presentations (Posters and Talks):

- Slides with LIGO and/or GEO strain curves and LIGO observational results must carry the LSC logo.
- Transparencies should be submitted to the DCC as close to the time of the presentation as possible, by emailing files or a pointer to dcc@ligo.caltech.edu
- The presenter is responsible to email in a timely way to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu the following information, for archiving in the LSC talk database:
 - the DCC number
 - the DCC pointer
 - title
 - speaker(s)
 - venue for the talk

3C. Invited presentations on Status of LIGO, GEO and Advanced LIGO and on Observational Results

This category includes invited contributions to:

- A) Conferences and Workshops
- B) Seminars and Colloquia

- The invitation shall be forwarded to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu. In order to ensure a fair distribution of talks to individuals and institutions, the P&P committee, in collaboration with the LIGO Laboratory Speakers Committee and the person who received the invitation, will decide whether or not to accept and will select a speaker from the LSC. In almost all cases, the person receiving the invitation will be approved to give the presentation. If the invitee does not wish to accept the invitation, and the conference is of interest to the LSC, the P&P Committee would be pleased to identify a substitute.
- Once the speaking assignment is made, the person who received the invitation is responsible for responding to it.
- The abstract should be sent to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu for P&P approval **no fewer than 2 days** before the abstract submission deadline.
- If the talk includes new results to be presented at major conferences, the speaker, in collaboration with the analysis groups, must first obtain the approval of the Council (or the Executive Committee).
- For conferences and workshops, a pointer to the transparencies shall be emailed to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu for P&P approval **one week** before the presentation. Any shorter interval needs to be negotiated ahead of time with the P&P committee. Minor changes can be made in the week before presentation, but no changes concerning astrophysical results (in graphs or text) are allowed. The

presented version must be sent to the P&P and to the DCC for archival and reference.

- For seminars and colloquia, a pointer to a reasonably final set of transparencies should be emailed to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu for P&P approval before the presentation, preferably a week in advance.

3D. Contributed presentations on Status of LIGO, GEO, Advanced LIGO and Observational Results

Conference and workshop contributed presentations that describe the status of the project and/or present observational results should follow this procedure:

- Speakers are assigned by the search groups (for observational results) or by the LIGO Speakers Committee (for “status” talks), in consultation with the P&P committee.
- The speaker talks “for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration”.
- If the talk presents data analysis results, abstract and transparencies should be distributed to the analysis group and be endorsed by its chairs before they are submitted to the P&P committee. New observational results also need to be approved by the Council (or the Executive Committee).
- Abstracts should be sent for final approval to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu at least **4 days before the deadline of abstract submission** for conferences with an expected large number of abstracts (e.g. GWDAW, Amaldi, Aspen, APS), 2 days in all other cases.
- A pointer to transparencies should be sent to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu for final approval one week before the presentation. A faster turn-around needs to be negotiated with the committee.

3E. Invited Presentations on Technical Matters

Invitations received by a LIGO Scientific Collaborator for seminars, colloquia, conferences and workshops *on LSC-related technical matters* (as distinct from LSC observational results and overview talks on the status of LIGO, GEO or Advanced LIGO) are regarded as an invitation to an individual.

Invitees should follow this procedure:

- No prior approval is needed to accept such an invitation. If the invitee does not wish to accept the invitation, and the conference is of interest to the LSC, the P&P Committee would be pleased to identify a substitute.
- The invitee should email lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu to inform the P&P committee of date, place, and title of the presentation well in advance of the presentation.
- The abstract should be sent to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu for before the submission deadline.
- A pointer to transparencies shall be emailed to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu as soon as is reasonable, but before the presentation if possible.

3F. Contributed Presentations on Technical Matters

Any member of the LIGO Collaboration may initiate the submission of an LSC-related technical contribution to a workshop or conference. This procedure should be followed:

- The initiating author(s) should inform the P&P committee of their intent, with an email to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu **at least 2 days** before submission, with:
 - a title
 - an abstract of the talk
 - a proposed author list
 - a link to the conference/workshop web page

For main conferences (e.g. GWDAW, Aspen, APS, Amaldi), where a large number of contributions is expected, we require **4 days advance notice**.

- If LIGO or GEO data are used in the presentation (for instance, to test an analysis method on actual data) transparencies should be submitted for approval to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu at least one week before the presentation. If no data are involved, advanced submission of slides is optional, but a pointer to transparencies shall be emailed to lsc-pp@ligo.caltech.edu as soon as is reasonable, but before the presentation.

Table of steps and time tables for presentations

<i>Category</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Time Period</i>
Invited 'Status' or 'Results' Presentations at Conferences or Seminars and Colloquia	Notify P&P committee	When invitation is received
	Send abstract to P&P Committee	At least 2 days prior to submission deadline
	Send presentation to P&P Committee	Conferences - at least 1 week prior to presentation Seminars – when ready and in reasonably final form
Contributed 'Status' or 'Results' Presentations	Send abstract to P&P Committee	2 days prior to deadline; 4 days for major conferences
	Send presentation to P&P Committee	1 week before presentation
Invited Presentations on Technical Matters	Notify P&P committee	When invitation is received
	Send abstract to P&P Committee	At least 2 days prior to submission deadline
	Send presentation to P&P Committee	Conferences - at least 1 week prior to presentation Seminars – when ready and in reasonably final form
Contributed Presentations on Technical Matters	Send abstract to P&P Committee	2 days prior to deadline; 4 days for major conferences
	Send presentation to P&P Committee	Optional, unless real data is used, in which case at least 1 week