

were built up again around the year 1970 that came useful at later dates. The bottom part of Figure B shows how these reserves (called Available Funds in the external auditors' reports) developed in the course of time. Naturally, it was tempting for the financing authorities to use these reserves for reducing next years' contributions. Moreover, for an organization like ESO to put considerable funds on a profitable savings account meets little sympathy on the side of the funding agencies. Luckily, ESO Council and Finance Committee were tolerant in this matter.

The Years 1971–76; The TP Division

The early 1970's saw the creation of the TP Division for the realization of the 3.6-m Telescope, and one of its first tasks was reliable budget planning. As a consequence, the required annual contributions rose steeply to a level that in the years 1974 and 1975 amounted to more than twice that around the year 1970. The documentation mentioned before allows singling out the financing of the TP Division from the remaining expenses. This leads to the presentation in Figure B. The dashed red contours outline the share of the Division and illustrate that it was responsible for the rapid increase of income and expenses in the early 1970's. Roughly speaking, TP Division expenses through 1976 concerned the 3.6-m Telescope with its building and dome, whereas in subsequent years emphasis shifted to auxiliary instrumentation as part of the regular running costs, and hence annual contributions and expenses then levelled off. Over the period 1971 to 1976 (the year of completion of the 3.6-m Telescope), the integrated expenditure of the TP Division amounted to DM 74 million. We saw that Ramberg's estimate of the year 1969 amounted to DM 39 million; adjusting this to 1975 for inflation would give about DM 52 million.

Overall Developments Since 1954

In Figure C the black line shows the overall development of the annual contributions over the first two decades from 1954, and this time all figures are in dm, i.e. adjusted to the 1990 purchasing power of the Deutschmark; the amounts are marked along the left-hand scale. We see that after 1964 there was a decade of approximately linear increase of the contributions followed by an extra growth around the completion of the large telescope, and subsequently levelling off when ESO's full operational stage had been reached.

The blue line shows the accumulated

contributions, also in dm, and to be read along the right-hand scale. We infer that by the time the 3.6-m Telescope became operational, ESO had spent altogether about 400 million dm. Of these, the expenditure by the TP Division had been about 113 million dm, i.e. about 28%. A somewhat larger amount, about 150 million dm, 38%, had been spent up to 1970 when ESO's first phase had been concluded with the dedications on La Silla. 34%, or about one third, had been spent after 1969 on the operations and new construction programmes in Chile and on the services (including that for the Visiting Astronomers) at the (provisional) Headquarters in Hamburg-Bergedorf.

References and Notes

Abbreviations used:

EHA = ESO Historical Archives.

FHA = Files Head of Administration at ESO.

EHPA = ESO Historical Photographs Archives.

- [1] FHA Doc. Cou-62, Minutes 14th Cou Meeting, p.16.
- [2] See Ref. [1], p.10.
- [3] FHA Doc. Cou-96, Minutes 17th Cou Meeting, p.31.
- [4] See, for instance, the minutes of Cou and FC over the years 1971–1973.
- [5] This proposal served for discussion in closed session at the 2nd meeting of the SPC and is not in the FHA. Its contents is reported in the minutes of this meeting, Doc. SPC-2 in FHA.
- [6] See, for instance, the compilation "Publications based on observational work at the ESO Observatory La Silla", of Nov. 1974, Doc. OPC-20 in FHA-Sc.Act.
- [7] Minutes of this meeting with attached report of Chairman SPC to C. of Cou., Doc. Cou-121rev. in FHA.
- [8] See Doc. Cou-126 of Oct. 20, 1972 in FHA.

- [9] FHA Doc. Cou-127, Minutes of C. of Cou.
- [10] FHA Doc. Cou-126rev.
- [11] FHA Doc. Cou-131, Summary 20th meeting of Council; see also discussion of this topic in minutes 21st Cou meeting, Doc. Cou-149.
- [12] Report Chairman SPC and Minutes C. of Cou., Docs. Cou-145 and Cou-136 in FHA.
- [13] FHA Doc. Cou-142.
- [14] FHA Doc. Cou-149, Minutes 21st Cou. meeting.
- [15] See Ref. [9].
- [16] FHA Doc. Cou-147, Minutes 8th meeting C. of Cou., p.9.
- [17] FHA Doc. Cou-150, p.7.
- [18] FHA Doc. Cou-162, Minutes 22nd Cou. meeting, p. 21–23.
- [19] FHA Doc. Cou-175, Minutes 23rd Cou. meeting.
- [20] Proceedings of the ESO/SRC/CERN Conference on Research Programmes for the New Large Telescopes, Ed., A. Reiz, 1974.
- [21] FHA Doc. Cou-179, Minutes 12th meeting C. of Cou., p.2
- [22] FHA Doc. FC-246 and Cou-115.
- [23] FHA Doc. Cou-119, Minutes 19th Cou. meeting, p.11.
- [24] FHA Docs Cou-131 and Cou-135, Summary of Conclusions and Minutes 20th Cou. meeting.
- [25] FHA Doc. Cou-142 and discussion by president SPC in C. of Cou. in May 1973, see Doc. Cou-147.
- [26] FHA Doc. Cou-150, p.8.
- [27] FHA Doc. Cou-162.
- [28] FHA Doc. Cou-175.
- [29] EHA-I.B.8.
- [30] Monatsberichte Deutsche Bundesbank, Statistische Beihefte, Mai 1989, No. 2.
- [31] Statistisches Bundesamt, Fachserie 17, Reihe 7, Preise und Preisindizes . . . (November 1990).
- [32] Minutes 2nd meeting Provisional Finance Comm. in FHA.
- [33] Docs FC-44,45 in FHA.
- [34] EHA-I.A.1.5. and I.B.3.
- [35] EHA-I.A.2.17. and I.B.7.
- [36] Minutes of the 9th meeting of F.C., Doc. FC-102 in FHA.

Visiting Professor in Astronomy – 1991/92

Under the recent Portugal-ESO Agreement, there is the possibility of financing a lecturership at the University of Porto.

Host Institution: Centro de Astrofísica – Universidade do Porto

Field: Astronomy/Astrophysics

Period: 6 to 8 weeks, starting from the middle of October 1991 or beginning of May 1992.

Titles of the courses to be taught: Extragalactic Astronomy, Galactic Astronomy, Interstellar Medium, Stellar Astronomy; other possibilities may be acceptable.

Qualifications: Ph.D., preferably with some teaching experience in Astronomy/Astrophysics. Preference will be given to people with interest in observational Astronomy, in particular with experience of using the ESO facilities.

For further information please contact:

Teresa Lago

Centro de Astrofísica da Universidade do Porto

Rua do Campo Alegre 823

4100 Porto, Portugal

Tel. 351-2-6001672; Fax: 351-2-6003654