

H α 1, and better constraints on the X-ray emission of other brown dwarfs, will be necessary to answer these questions.

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CALL FOR IDEAS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC IMAGING SURVEYS

Based on the experience gained with EIS, and to prepare for the full exploitation of future imaging facilities such as the VST, ESO is ready to co-ordinate efforts to provide the community with imaging survey data taken at the La Silla Telescopes (2.2-m and NTT).

To this end, and following the recommendation of the Working Group for Surveys (WGS), ESO is issuing the present CALL FOR IDEAS for future public imaging surveys.

Scientists in the community are invited to fill out the form available in the ESO EIS Web page with their suggestions for future surveys (http://www.eso.org/science/eis/eis_ideas/wf2.2_form.html). The compiled responses will be forwarded to the chairman of the WGS (Joachim Krautter, J.Krautter@lsw.uni-heidelberg.de).

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 15, 1999

In elaborating their suggestions interested scientists should consider the following guidelines.

A Public survey should primarily be aimed at the maximisation of the scientific outcome of the VLT, and should consist of observations not likely to be covered by "private" proposals.

Public surveys should also have a broad scientific goal, provide data that could be fruitfully used by astronomers working in different astronomical areas, e.g. solar system, stellar populations, observational cosmology, etc., and should be easily complemented by 'private' proposals aimed at more specific scientific goals. As a consequence, in general, public surveys may concentrate on broad-band imaging, leaving e.g. narrow-band follow up or second-epoch observations to 'private' proposals.

The Working Group will collect the submitted ideas, and elaborate one or more detailed proposals to be submitted to the OPC, including a description of the survey products, distribution policy and schedule.

It is expected that a Survey Team, following the model of the EIS team, will be charged to execute the survey, combining in it ESO scientists and Visiting scientists from the community. In the future, as standard survey tools become available throughout the community, one may also envisage public surveys being conducted by Teams assembled in a member state institute with demonstrated experience and required infrastructure. Shortly after OPC approval of a survey, ESO will issue an announcement of opportunity for the recruitment of the Visiting Scientists who will participate in the effort.

Please read also the EIS Working Group Recommendations regarding future surveys.

EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY ATLAS OF THE NORTHERN SKY

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