






Director's response to ATUC Report – April 2022

ATUC Recommendation	Director's Response	Traffic Light
<b>2. Commendations for S&amp;A</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keith Bannister for winning the 2022 Pawsey medal.</li> <li>• 3C273 Lunar occultation commemoration event.</li> <li>• Participation and presentations by two ATNF students at the "RFI2022" meeting.</li> <li>• Hosting a successful online conference "VLBI in the SKA Era".</li> </ul>		
<b>Recommendations</b>		
<b>3. ATNF Strategy</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue (if not grow) investment and support (inclusive of financial &amp; career) in training student &amp; ECR researchers, particularly in the specialised areas of engineering and synthesis observations.</li> <li>• In an effort to cater to a larger demographic base of users, short non-radio expert training for the greater community in the access of the large survey data products is also encouraged. Such programmes should be in addition to existing expert student training programmes, and not as a replacement.</li> <li>• The ATNF continues with vibrant student programmes (both for summer vacation and Ph.D. students). The ATNF should ensure diversity in its Ph.D. cohort. This can be accomplished through ensuring diversity in the summer vacation student programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue to value our role in the community for training of students and ECRs.</li> <li>• We are exploring new training opportunities as part of a review of our education and training program. Training for non-radio experts is being included.</li> <li>• We will continue to provide our student programmes and monitor the diversity (including gender where we seek to adhere to CSIRO's 40:40:20 target, as well as institution and State). Students in the recent 2021-2022 vacation programme included 9 women and 5 men, from 8 universities, and 5 different states and territories. The forthcoming 2022-2023 vacation student cohort includes 6 women (plus one "Women in Engineering" student) and 8 men, from 10 universities and 5 different states and territories.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">●</p> <p style="text-align: center;">●</p>








<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATUC suggests a suitable revision of the cookbook as one of the measures to facilitate a smoother transition from CABB to BIGCAT.</li> </ul> <p><b>7.1 Student Programme</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATNF to organise an in-person radio school for 2022, if permitted by pandemic regulations.</li> <li>• ATNF to consider (and provide) support for student travel to the observatories (Narrabri) or ATNF sites (Perth/Marsfield), in replacement of previous travel support that was offered as part of the duty astronomer program (for domestic students).</li> </ul> <p><b>7.2 Observer Training and Qualification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATNF to consider investing in a more comprehensive online training programme that will allow international observers to qualify for observing without making a visit to the SOC.</li> <li>• ATNF to investigate options to simulate the observing experiences (e.g. VR training modules) as part of the online training program.</li> </ul>	<p>the new model, and the associated developments will be described in the next ATUC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All observing manuals, including cookbook will be updated for BIGCAT</li> <li>• Organisational preparation for a 2022 “mini” Radio school is underway, likely to occur in conjunction with vacation student activities.</li> <li>• A standard budget for travel is allocated for all students and this can be used to visit the telescope sites and our metro office sites. We are also looking at implementing a broader visiting scientist program for our NSW observatory sites, which would serve to support all students (not just ATNF students).</li> <li>• This is being considered as part of our overall efforts to update the National Facility support model, and refresh our training program. This recommendation needs to also take into account resource implications to manage the scope.</li> <li>• We are exploring various options to improve methods of training and educating the community on use of ATNF facilities, including simulated interfaces to archival data, development of online training modules and effective use of immersive reality platforms. Detailed development will depend on ability to allocate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• </li> <li>• </li> <li>• </li> <li>• </li> <li>• </li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATNF to publish the main duties of members on the ATUC website.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are looking at updating the ATUC terms of reference (currently available on the ATNF website) to articulate the role of the ATUC Secretary, and clarify the role of the members. This will need ATSC endorsement.</li></ul>	
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