



# ATCA Training

*Current status and possibilities for the future*

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CSIRO Space & Astronomy

ATCA IS LOCATED ON THE  
LAND OF THE GOMEROI  
PEOPLE. WE ACKNOWLEDGE  
THE GOMEROI PEOPLE AS  
TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF  
THE OBSERVATORY SITE.



# A brief history\*

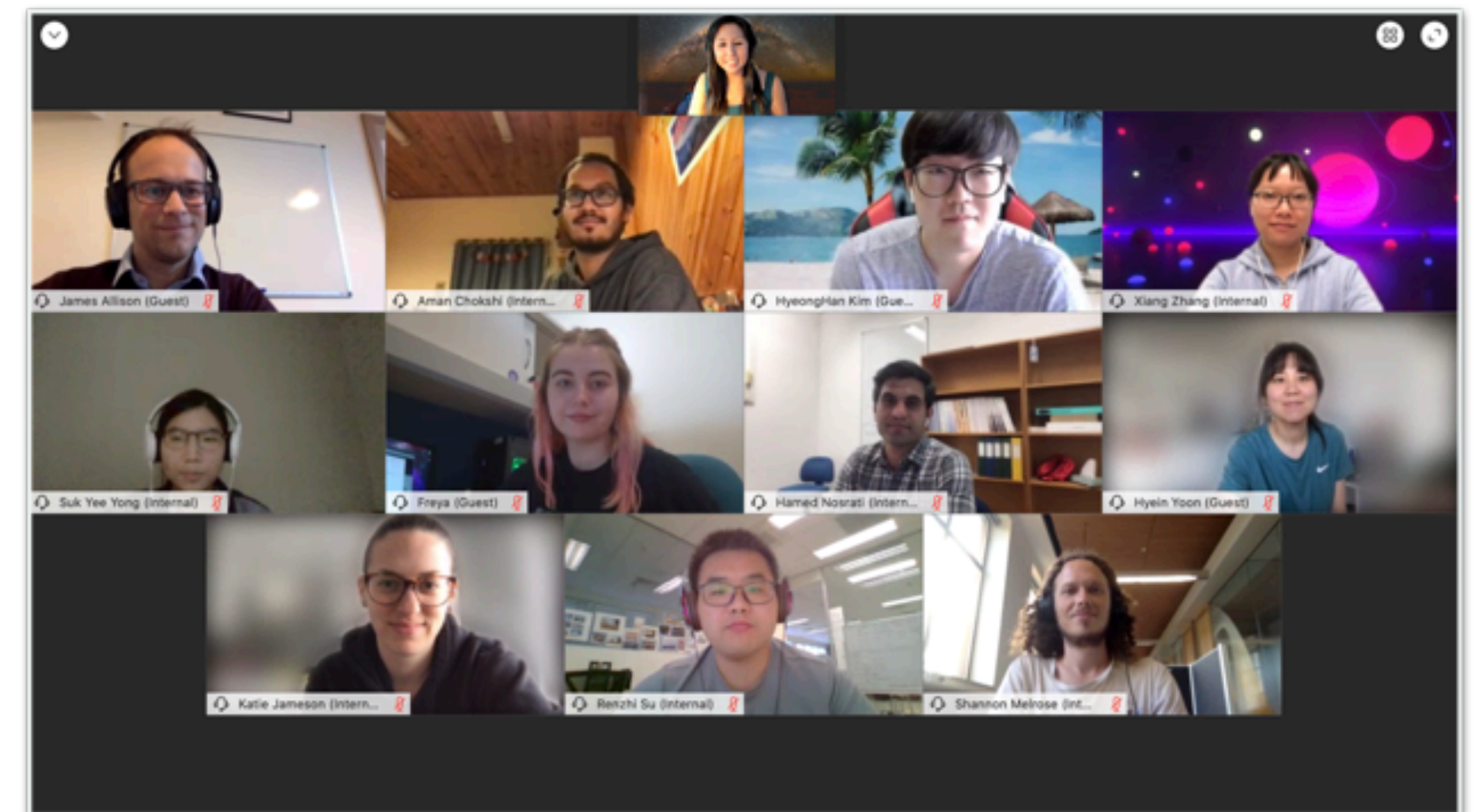
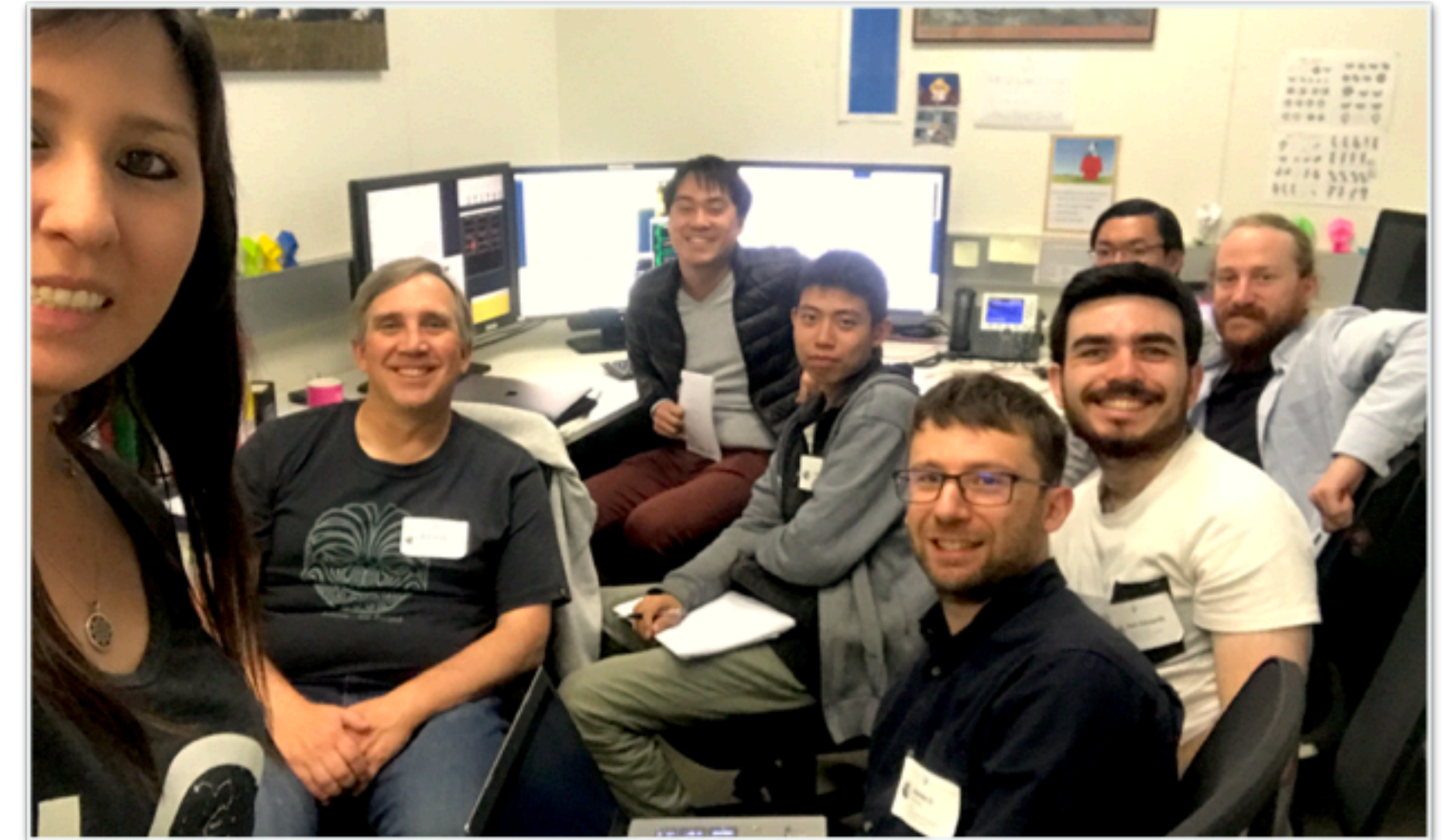
- **1990s to 2010s:** observers, duty astronomers and site staff in situ at Narrabri, trained on site upon arrival and via radio schools
- **2010-2015:** rise of remote observing, less observers/DAs on site, significant budget cuts





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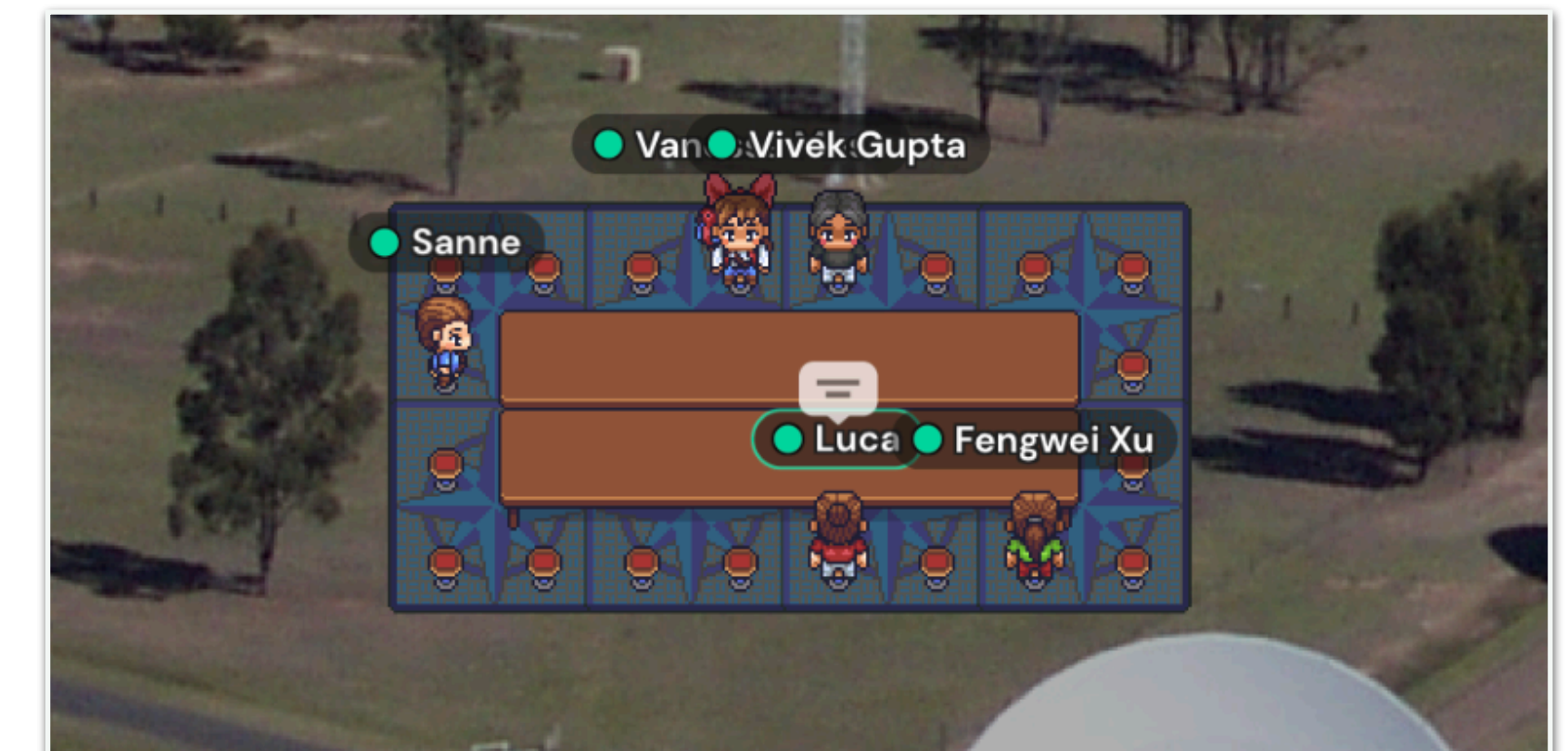
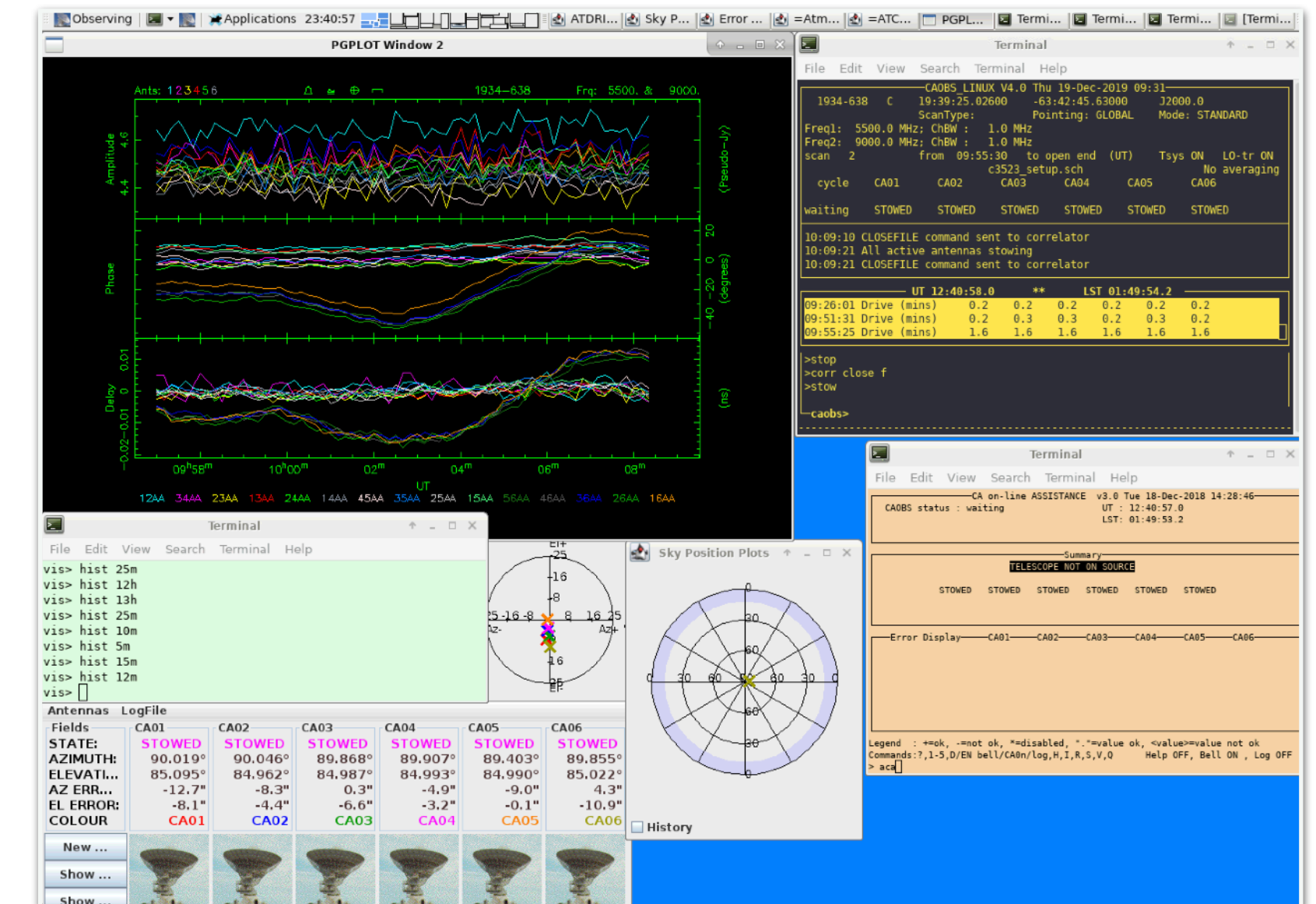
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- **2015-2020:** shift to majority remote observing, legacy teams, focus on Marsfield for new DAs and observers, rise of Kensington, examples of group training, consideration of sustainability
- **2020-now:** impact of pandemic, shift to remote training (including observers), evolution of NF model, rise of automation, shift in community?





# Overview of current training

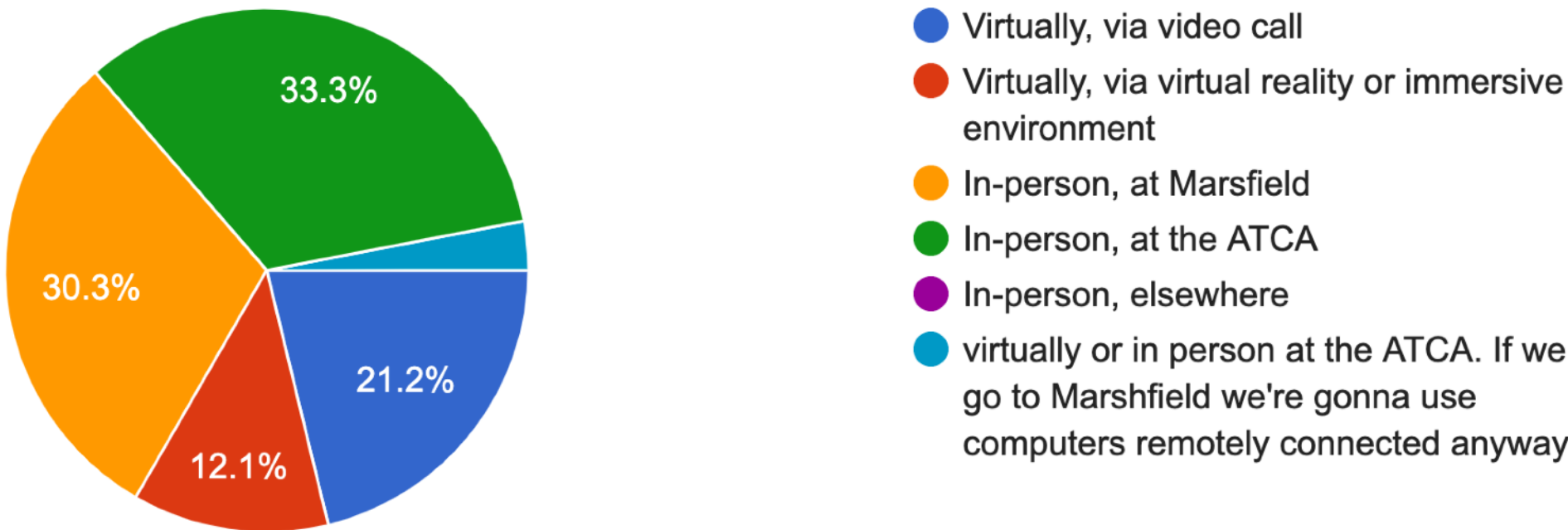
- Pandemic: a **trigger** to step back from standard practice and reassess what might work best
- Official DA duty is to train **new observers**, but this has not often been true in practice
- **Group online trainings** carried out regularly since late 2020: 13 x 2 hr training sessions, 138 registered attendees across various time zones
- Started in WebEx, shifted to using **ATNF Gather** (most recently, the ATCA space)
- Training focuses on **introduction** to observing and interactive live demonstrations of setup



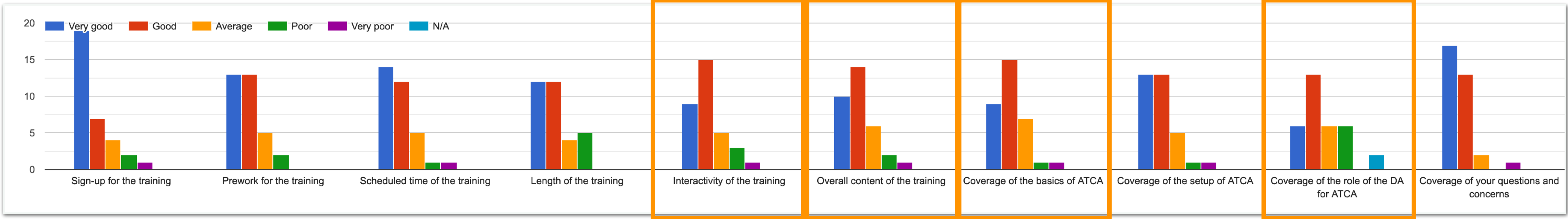
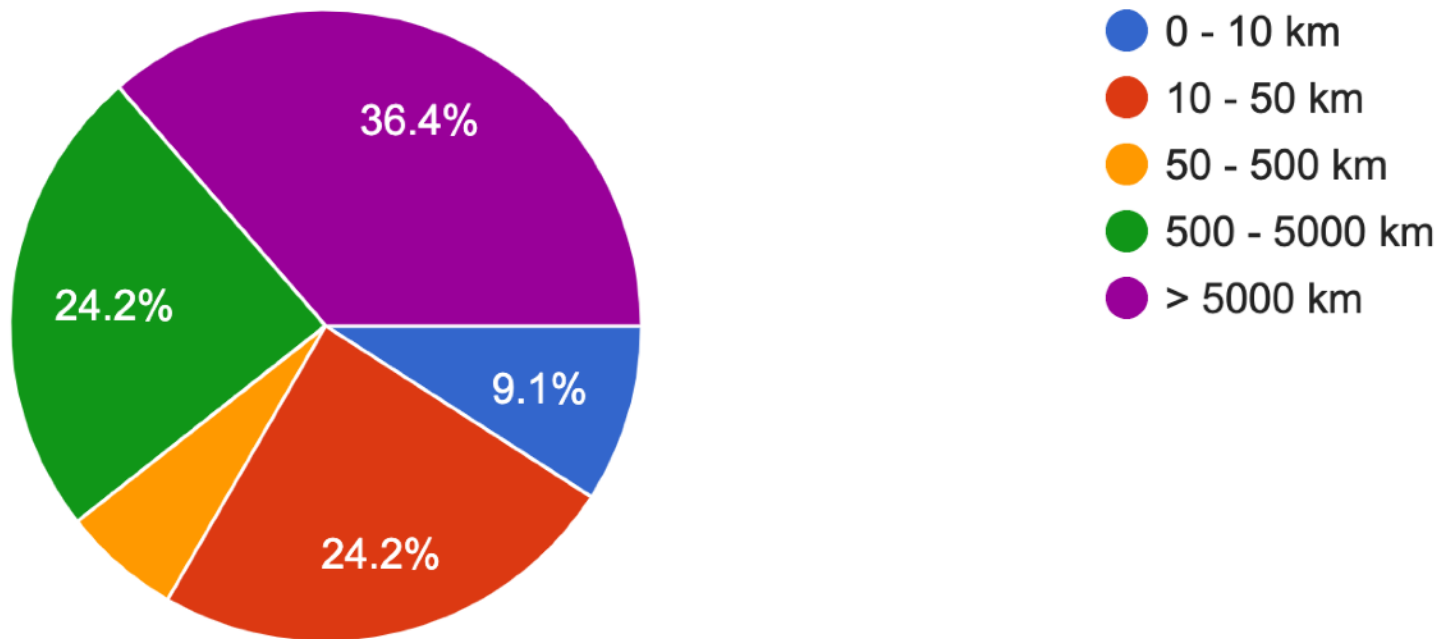


# Insights from training feedback

Q5. What would have been your preference in terms of being trained in a live setting?  
33 responses



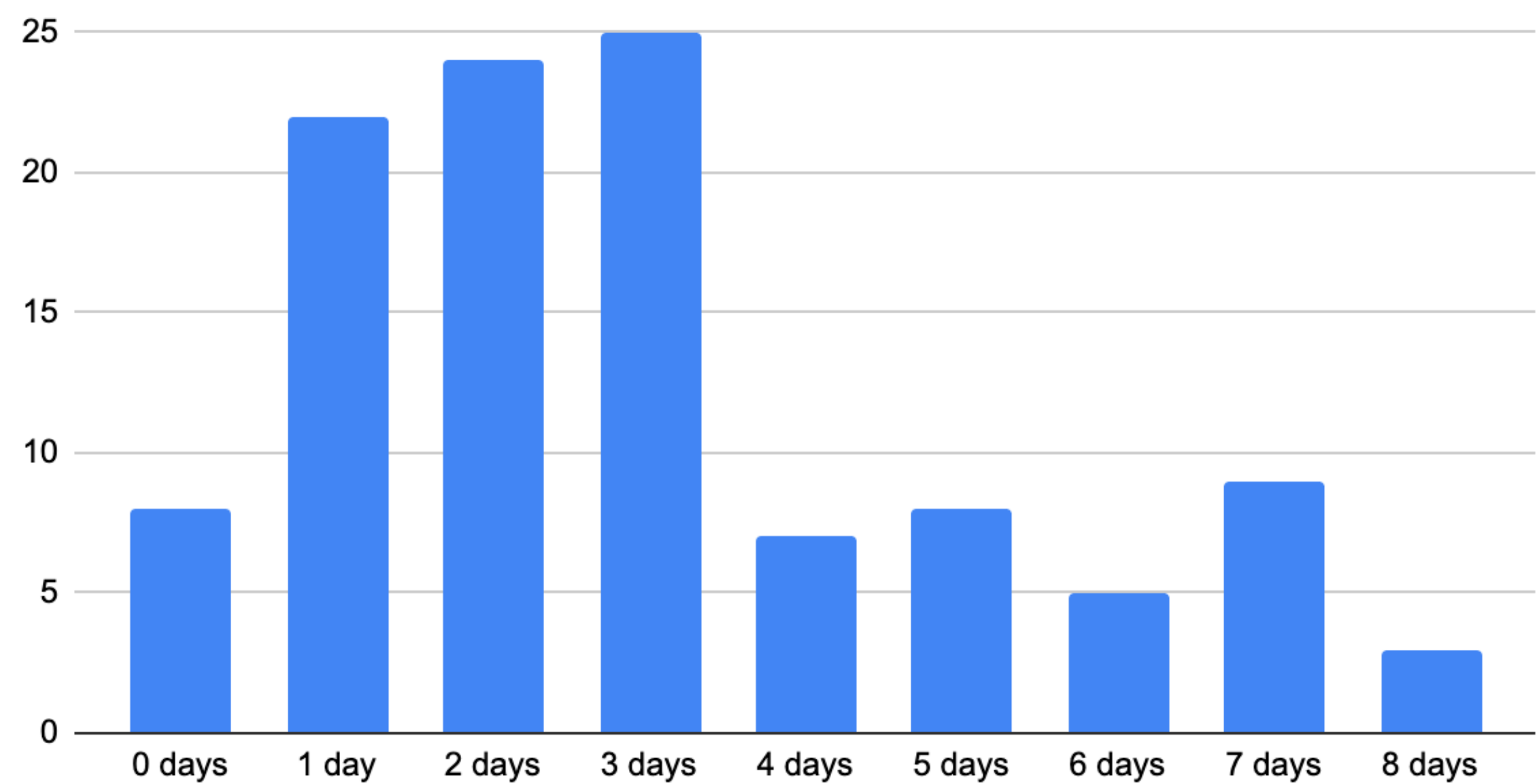
Q4b. How far would you need to travel to reach Marsfield? (roughly)  
33 responses





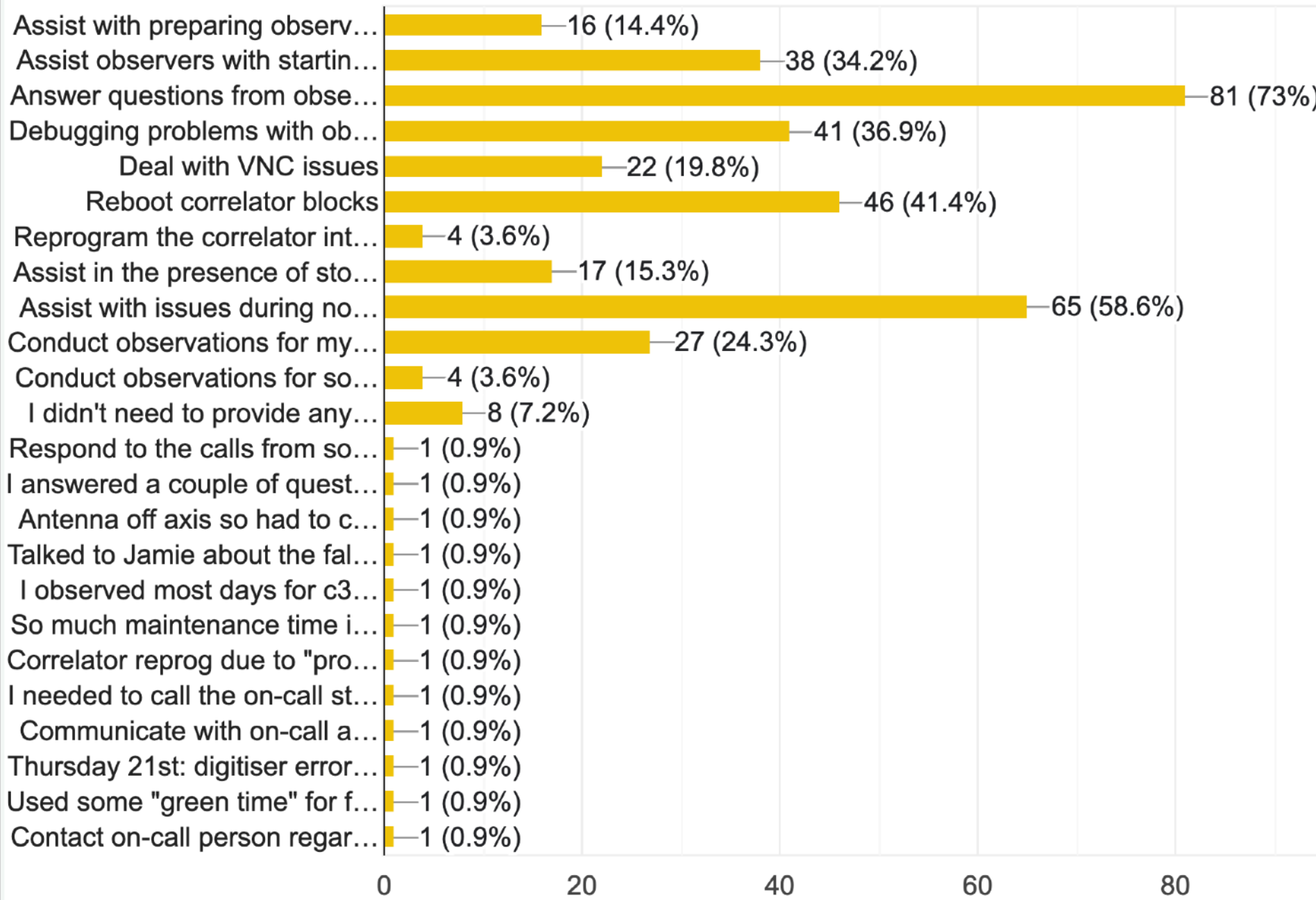
# Insights from the DA handovers

Count of "On how many days did you need to do something in your role as DA?"



What assistance did you need to provide?

111 responses





# The future of training?

