

Take-Aways

General:

- Important to make sure a report from this workshop is provided to NASA
 - FIRSIG Workshop Report Circulated to the Community first for further comment
 - Espec. Balloon PIs to comment/add to
 - Make it ready as input the COPAG's TIG/Technology Interest Group (1st Meeting in June – check with TIG chairs)
 - Need FIRSIG membership on the TIG

Take-Aways

SOFIA:

- Strategy for "rapid response" (eg. days' response supernova) for SOFIA is encouraged
- 3 years from flow of money to delivery is a minium time for a SOFIA instrument (allows for tech development)
- Standard Cryostat option is attractive
 - The drawings would be most welcome (vs. hardware)
- Common software
- International Cooperation is desired and needs to be allowed
 - Past experience for partnership has been difficult; except for Collaborations
 - Benefits of stability
 - Suggestion of NASA/DLR joint call
- PI Instrument emphasized, or a joint University-Center / University consortium
 - More training, more students
- Lower the barriers to getting instruments on SOFIA is desired
- Preference for a 2 step proposal process

Take-Aways

Balloons

- Balloon is a different model to SOFIA
 - They both have strengths and weaknesses. Comparing them is like comparing apples & oranges.
- Standardize gondola?
 - Ask the instrument builders not just balloon PIs.
 - Could this expand the community?
- Balloon cadence is improving, can potentially be staggered every other year.
- The General Observatory Balloon, with becomes a reality, will need a science center.

Workshop Goals

At the end of today, we're looking for an agreement on...

- 3 things you would like to see in the next SOFIA instrument (solicitation is coming out this summer!)
 - Graduate Students involvement
 - 2 Steps, PDR within 3-6 months after start of project
 - Allowing PI instrument model (finding avenues to make this happen)
 - Foreign Collaboration (language encouraging)
 - Science from community drives the desired instrument proposal
- 3 things you would like to see in FIR technology / instrumentation / instruments on other platforms
 - (1) Detectors
 - (2) Larger Pixel Count factor of 10 above the current state of art (Future: OST need 10^5 direct detectors, 100 for heterodyne)
 - (3) Large format cryogenic readout technology
 - (4) Low power electronics