





ARC <u>Centre of Excellence</u> for <u>All-Sky Astrophysics</u>: A New Way of Looking at the Sky Bryan Gaensler

CAASTRO Director www.caastro.org









CSIRO; Swinburne



ARC Centres of Excellence

- > Prestigious hubs of expertise
- > Undertake highly innovative research
- > Link existing research strengths
- > Provide high-quality training
- Opportunities to work on large-scale
 problems over long periods of time



Australian Government

Australian Research Council

Centre for All-sky Astrophysics

- seven years of funding (2011-2018), budget of ~\$4M/year
- budget: 75% staff/students/travel, 4% equipment, 17% admin, 4% outreach
- Director, Advisory Board, annual reports, KPIs ...



The CAASTRO Vision



- New wide-field optical & radio telescopes
- Powerful supercomputers to analyse the data
- To exploit this opportunity, we now need:
 - a network of skilled researchers
 - a coordinated approach to complex experiments
 - a platform for maintaining a competitive advantage



































CAASTRO Research Themes

> THE EVOLVING UNIVERSE

- When did the first galaxies form, and how have they then evolved?
- BIGHORNS: custom experiment to detect global reionisation signature (Sokolowski et al. 2012)

> THE DYNAMIC UNIVERSE

- What is the extreme physics that drives change in the Universe?
- prompt radio signals from GRBs (Bannister et al. 2012)

> THE DARK UNIVERSE

- What are the Dark Energy and Dark Matter that dominate the cosmos?
- largest ever study of cosmic homogeneity (Scrimgeour et al. 2012)







CAASTRO Programs & Initiatives

- Workshops & conferences
 - GPU programming (Oct 2012)
 - global reionisation signatures (Nov 2012)
 - simulations of galaxy formation (Mar 2013)
 - "High Redshifts in the Red Centre" (Jul 2013)
- Video conferencing and busy weeks
- Visitor program
- NCI flagship allocation: 8 million core hrs / year
- Training, education & outreach
 - formal mentoring & professional development
 - "CAASTRO in the Classroom"
 - Tafelmusik national tour
 - animation & YouTube content
 - games & television documentaries









The Centre for All-sky Astrophysics

The CAASTRO Vision: To be the international leader in wide-field astronomy, positioning Australia to address fundamental unsolved questions about the Universe with the dramatic capabilities of next-generation telescopes and advanced instrumentation.

- → **DISCOVER:** Ground-breaking advances in understanding the Universe
- \rightarrow **INNOVATE:** New ways of processing & visualising complex data sets
- → **PERFORM:** High-impact discoveries using SKA pathfinders
- → UNITE: A new network of talented researchers
- → EDUCATE: Exciting opportunities for students and young researchers









Centre Governance





Budget & Partner Contributions

Income : \$28.6M (2011-2018)



Total In-Kind: \$58.0M



Expenditure: \$27.8M (2011-2018)