

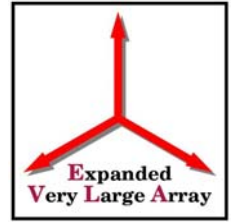
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# Phase II, and Beyond

Rick Perley



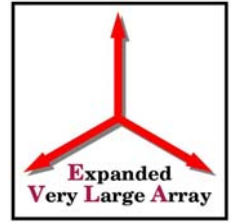
# A Brief History of Phase II



- 2000 AASC gave full EVLA 4<sup>th</sup> highest recommendation amongst major initiatives.
- Phase I proposal submitted May 2000. High resolution, 'E-config.', and low frequency components removed for technical, budget, and timescale reasons.
- Phase II proposal development process lengthy. About 6 person-years utilized to prepare proposal.
- Proposal submitted April 2004, following considerable internal (NRAO and AUI) review.
- Review process lengthy. Reviewers' reports were not received until May 2005, and were mixed:
  - Of ~ 12 reviews, 5 'excellent', 5 'very good', 1 'good', and 1 'poor'.



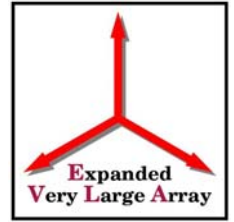
# A Brief History of Phase II



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- `Reverse Site Visit' held at NSF in June, 2005.
    - Reviewers were B. Balick, E. Feigelson, C. Heiles, M. Elvis, K. Bartos, K. Weiler.
  - NSF informed AUI in December 2005 the proposal would not be funded – without explanation or suggestions.
  - The RSV panel's report praised the technical aspects of the proposal, but faulted us for not selling the unique science.
  - The RSV panel recommended that we revise, rewrap, and re-submit the proposal within ~1 year, along with an intensive campaign to advertise the scientific capabilities of the expanded array to the US astronomical community.
  - Also recommended E-configuration be funded separately.
  - Should we do these?



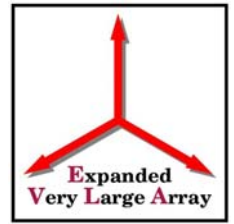
# Arguments For and Against Resubmission



- For:
  - High resolution, high sensitivity astronomy is important. Full EVLA's capabilities truly unique.
  - The science case is very strong.
  - EVLA Phase II remains the stepping-stone to the SKA
    - which is not close to construction.
- Against:
  - It's too late in the decade for any chance of funding. Planning for the next Decadal Committee about to start.
  - We would have to re-direct major scientific staff resources to follow the RSV Committee's advice.



# Decision



- We have decided to not follow the RSV recommendations.
- The Observatory is opening internal and external discussion on the best strategy for developing high sensitivity, high resolution cm-wave astronomy.
- As for E-configuration -- ~\$6M needed to do this.