

AAL/NRCRIS Funding Update (mostly from AAL member update from M. McAuley)

The Department of Education has released a draft funding agreement to AAL (\$10M x 5 years) = “Base” Funding

Contribution to CTAO ‘fee’ (~ 53kEuro) is included in this! (J. Murray)

Additional AAL funding requesting \$46 million over 4 years submitted in late-March for these 11 items:
(Expect decision in May)

1. Astronomy Data and Computing Services (ADACS)
2. Optical Astronomy Instrumentation (Astralis)
3. ASKAP Infrastructure Maintenance

Australian Government’s research infrastructure roadmap and the National Reconstruction Fund:

4. Data and Computing Services: expand and diversify ADACS operations into (ESO, Vera C. Rubin Obs++)
5. High Angular Resolution Monolithic Optical and Near Infrared spectrograph (HARMONI) – for ESO-ELT:
6. MWA Operations Uplift: a proposal designed to increase the MWA’s resilience and secure robust operations
7. Astronomy Technology Discovery Pipeline: to support commercial outcomes from IP generated by Australian community
8. Big Science Marketplace: support Australian companies engaging in large projects (ESO, CTA, SKA, LIGO etc etc)
9. Initial study for an Australian-based Gravitational Wave Observatory: identify opportunities for Australian industry
10. MWA Receiver Replacements: to support the procurement, deployment and installation of critical replacement receivers
11. Lasers for Astronomy and Space: the Astralis Laser Guide Star Facility: Toptica SodiumStar laser at (NSTF) Mt Stromlo

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Direct benefit to CTA?

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