Summer 2022

PRIMA Community Newsletter



Important Dates:

- July 2022: Goddard Strategic Science Concept Review
- Summer 2022 (expected): Draft Announcement of Opportunity (AO)
- October 2023 (estimated): Proposal due

Project Updates

- Alexandra Pope (UMass Amherst) Named PRIMA Science Lead. She joins PI Jason Glenn and Acting Deputy PI Matt Bradford on the PRIMA leadership team.
- Partnership Established with European Consortium to Build the PRIMA Imager. The consortium is led by PI Denis Burgarella (Laboratorie d'Astrophysique de Marseille, LAM), Deputy PI Laure Ciesla (LAM), and Detector System Leads Willem Jellema (Netherlands Institute for Space Research, SRON) and Jochem Baselmans (TU Delft). The preliminary imager design runs from 25—230µm with polarimetry capability in the longest wavebands.
- **PRIMA Passed JPL Review**. In April, we had a first formal review of PRIMA at JPL that encompassed science, design, and personnel. The project received a strong endorsement and PRIMA is now a top priority for JPL.
- Partnership Established with Ball Aerospace. In May, we selected Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corporation as our spacecraft vendor. Ball has extensive relevant experience, and we are excited to work closely with them on PRIMA.

PI:

Community Involvement / GO Program

We received more than 125 individual science cases from our community input survey in February. Thank you to all who contributed ideas! The creativity, breadth and scientific vision on display were remarkable. This is a true testament to the power of ultra-sensitive access to the far-infrared sky. The PRIMA team is currently crafting the key scientific narratives and the instrument suite that will put PRIMA in a strong competitive position for mission selection. A general observer component is expected to comprise the majority of the time available on this facility. The community cases we have received make it crystal clear that, just as for Spitzer, Herschel, Hubble, JWST, and others before it, the bulk of PRIMA's scientific legacy will come from the strength of its observing community. Once the draft AO is released, we will be reaching out to those of you who responded to the survey, as well as the full community as we work to articulate the case for PRIMA as a powerful GO platform.

Contact Jason (Matt Br Alexand

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PRIMA Science Team

Jason Glenn (NASA GSFC)

Acting Deputy PI/Project Scientist: Matt Bradford (NASA JPL / Caltech)

Science Lead: Alexandra Pope (UMass Amherst)

GO Science Lead: Margaret Meixner *(USRA)*

Science Steering Committee:

Lee Armus (IPAC) Cara Battersby (U. Connecticut) Alberto Bolatto (U. Maryland) Brandon Hensley (Princeton) Tiffany Kataria (NASA JPL) Elisabeth Mills (U. Kansas) Arielle Moullet (SOFIA USRA) Klaus Pontoppidan (Space Telescope) JD Smith (U. Toledo) Rachel Somerville (Rutgers / Flatiron) Johannes Staguhn (JHU / GSFC)