This happened right after the last TIPS meeting, so it is “old” news by now, but let me congratulate Roeland van der Marel on his appointment as the new Telescopes Group Lead.

HST news:
- SM4 EVA planning took place at GSFC this week.
  - Guiding principle as advocated by STScI will be maximizing science within a 5-year life for HST.
  - A 5-EVA scenario installs WFC3 & COS, gets new batteries + gyros, and repairs STIS & ACS.
  - PDR on ACS repair at GSFC today.
  - Final decision on ACS repair by NASA HQ on July 13.
- HST MO continues discussions of current tasks and priorities.
  - ACS+WFPC2 mostly done; NICMOS nearing completion; first discussion of COS next Monday.
- ETC configuration management issues are were discussed by the HST MO, OED, and INS. Rossy Diaz-Miller will coordinate for INS.
  - First goal is to get ETCs up and running for Cycle 17.
  - After that, more robust/rigorous regression testing.

JWST news:
- As you’ve all heard by now, Kathryn Flanagan will be joining STScI as the JWST Mission Office head in September. Dr. Flanagan is currently a principle research scientist at MIT. She worked on several Chandra instruments, she is the IPT lead for the Con-X grating spectrometer, and she has served and is serving on several top-level NASA advisory committees, including the JWST Science Assessment Team.
  - The JWST Partner’s workshop in Dublin was a success. Kathy Flanagan attended, and is already well connected to many project staff, including half of the NGST contingent. (Many previously worked on Chandra when they were TRW.) The full-scale model was also on display, and a picture was above the fold on the first page of the Dublin newspaper!
  - ESA/NASA MOU for JWST signed on Monday at the Paris air show.
- All hardware for the central storage system is up and running. Alpha testing is in progress, and beta testing should begin in July.
- We’re still working with SMO to define both Visiting Scientist positions and term hires. The goal is to place ads by next month and hire several more people by this fall to help us get over the staffing hump associated with SM4.
- Team leads should be contacting everyone regarding this year’s appraisal cycle.
  - HR has lead the development of a new web-based tool, with some training sessions for this scheduled for next week.
  - Team leads should be contacting you requesting that you submit self appraisals by July 6. Even though the web tool is not yet released, you can
begin doing this now, using either plain text files or the Word document containing your GnOs.

• The INS working group on Diversity, Culture, and Respect has now met twice. Members are Rossy Diaz-Miller (chair), Alessandra Aloisi, Scott Friedman, Andy Fruchter, Kevin Lindsay, Dixie Shipley, and Linda Smith.
  o Please talk to any of these members about issues you would like to have discussed.
  o The committee’s first recommendation was to invite Sheryl Bruff to talk to us about the resources that HR provides to discuss job-related issues and problems in a confidential and supportive manner. So, let me introduce Sheryl as our first speaker today.