Instruments Division News
11/19/2009

• HST news:
  o The STUC was here November 12 and 13. They were impressed with our accomplishments following SM4. They gave strong support to the plan to maximize science in the 5 years following SM4 as our primary goal.
  o Yesterday we hosted a successful SMOV Closure Review for SM4. The presenters did a marvelous job at staying on time and in focus. Congratulations to all the HST teams and all the institute staff who made SMOV successful.
  o We’ve had two more SI C&DH lock-ups. Recovery this time was quick---less than 2 days down each time. However, NICMOS is now warming, and the project is considering doing a purge of the cooling system before cooling again.

• JWST news:
  o The Optical Telescope Element (OTE) passed its CDR in October. Members of the Telescopes Group supported the review.
  o The new JWST Advisory Committee, JSTAC, met here for the first time on Nov. 4 & 5. The experience of the panel showed, and they made several valuable recommendations to Matt Mountain to assist in JWST science readiness.

• The Future of the Workplace Committee gave a very positive verbal report from their recent visit. They saw the high morale following SM4 and SMOV, and they see continued progress on climate and the environment. Written recommendations are still to come.

• Remember: Personal Benefit Elections must be completed by this Friday, November 20.

• We are beginning to organize a committee to plan a calibration workshop in the summer of 2010. Sessions will cover both HST and JWST. Please let me, Danny Lennon, or your team lead know if you are interested in helping with the organization.

• We are planning our division holiday party for Thursday, December 17. So far I have several volunteers for helping out. Please let me know if you are interested.