Welcome to Erin Elliott, who joined the Telescopes Group on January 11 as a Senior Astronomical Optics Specialist.

HST news:
- A purge of the cooling loop in the NICMOS Cryocooler System is still pending further risk/benefit analysis---risks to the observatory as a whole vs. the potential for game-changing science that could be done with NICMOS.
- The TAC for the Multi-Cycle Treasury Program met at the Colonnade on Jan. 8&9, 2010. They selected 3 proposals totaling ~2000 orbits:
  - Julianne Dalcanton---M31
  - Marc Postman---Clusters of Galaxies
  - Sandy Faber & Harry Ferguson---Deep Survey and SNe

JWST News:
- 6 (of 18) primary mirror segments have now been delivered to the X-ray Cryogenic Test Facility at Marshall for optical testing.
- The Sunshield passed its CDR during the week of January 11, but with liens: more rigorous test and verification plans, a mass overage of 11 kg, and the tolerance on the deployed edge position.
- A dry run for the Proposal Planning System Subsystem Design Review was held earlier this week. The full-up review is in February.
- A Test Readiness Review for the NIRSpec detector system was held at Goddard last Monday. Testing will start in about a week, and staff from STScI will support it.
- FGS ETU cryovac tests will start early next week. WIT staff will also support these tests.
- WIT team has completed 75% of commissioning activity reports for the JWST instruments in preparation for this spring’s mission CDR.

Planning continues for this summer’s calibration workshop, July 21-23, here at STScI. A preliminary announcement and web site will go up shortly.