



Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Office of the Chair

4129 Frederick Reines Hall  
Irvine, CA 92697-4575

September 13, 2018

To: Ken Sembach; STScI, Director  
John Mather; GSFC, JWST Senior Project Scientist  
Neill Reid; STScI, Science Mission Office

From: James Bullock on behalf of the JWST Users Committee (JSTUC)

Re: Legacy programs with JWST

Today in our Fall webex meeting, the JSTUC discussed the possibility of JWST supporting large, multi-cycle projects or legacy/treasury programs. This discussion was inspired by the September 5, 2018 report issued by the NAS Committee on Exoplanet Science Strategy, which recommended a mechanism for community-driven JWST legacy surveys of exoplanet atmospheres.

A mechanism for large legacy programs will be important for maximizing JWST science. Our current recommendation is that such a call should be timed to allow the results from Cycle 1 be adequately digested by the community, perhaps occurring first in Cycle 3. One of the goals of our next all-hands meeting (Fall 2018 or early Winter 2019) will be to discuss the need for and recommendations on the implementation of such programs. Issues will include the desire for non-proprietary data and whether there should be an open competition among subfields or if there is a case to be made for pre-defined science areas. Our discussions to date have favored community-driven competition rather than a “top-down” approach for large program science, at least in the earlier stages of the mission.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James S. Bullock".

James Bullock  
Chair, James Webb Space Telescope Users Committee  
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
University of California, Irvine