Report from the LSST Project Science Team face-to-face meeting,

Tucson, March 26-27, 2019

The NSF LSST Program Officer, Ed Ajhar, attended this meeting in person.

The meeting started with half a day long discussion of organizational changes and tool developments to improve the integration of Telescope and Site Assembly, Integration and Verification (AIV) efforts with overall commissioning planning. Chuck Claver, the Commissioning Manager, and Sandrine Thomas, the Telescope & Site Subsystem Scientist, summarized the results and action items from a recent joint AIV-commissioning workshop in Tucson, and reported on their visit to La Serena and the summit. Victor Krabbendam, the LSST Project manager, introduced additional coordination activities between the summit team and Tucson, and a new Jira-based tool designed to improve strategic and day-to-day planning and coordination. Wil O`Mullane, the DM Project Manager, emphasized that the process of Jira ticket management is important and requires substantial resources (e.g. manager's attention is needed to check up on tickets and ensure that they get resolved).

The meeting continued with the Subsystem Scientists presenting progress. In particular, Sandrine Thomas described progress with the coating chamber installation at the summit, dome erection, TMA disassembly and shipment to Chile, auxiliary telescope, and shipment of M1/M3 from Tucson to Chile. Steve Ritz, the Camera Subsystem Scientist, provided updates on mitigation of raft particulate contamination and discussed optimization of the placement of two different raft types (with two different types of sensors, all sensors in a raft are from the same vendor) within the camera. The PST will lead a quantitative investigation of different optimization scenarios (e.g., maximizing uniformity vs. maximizing overall throughput). Justin Wolfe, from the camera team, presented r band filter coating update. Coating of convex surface with blocker coating was completed successfully and uniformity is excellent. Everything appears to have worked exactly as planned, though full characterization is still ongoing.

The second day of the meeting started with Data Management updates presented by Leanne Guy, the DM Subsystem Scientist and Wil O`Mullane. The highlights include the completion a significant milestone in project integration by demonstrating the successful transfer, ingest and processing of camera test stand data using the science pipelines and LSST Science Platform, a virtual meeting of the Data Management Leadership Team which produced numerous action items about running and testing pipelines at scale at NCSA, and Release 17.1 of the LSST Science Pipelines.

Bob Blum, the acting LSST Operations Director, Chuck Claver and Leanne Guy gave a talk on "Commissioning and Pre-Operations Data Policy and Serving" to the Science Collaboration chairs (it will be available from https://www.lsst.org/content/lsst-information-scientists)

The rest of the second day was spent discussing Operations Readiness Criteria, summarized at https://confluence.lsstcorp.org/display/LSSTCOM/Operations+Readiness+Criteria

At the conclusion of the Commissioning Phase of the LSST construction project, an Operations Readiness Review will be undertaken by an external panel, jointly appointed by the DOE and NSF, in consultation with the LSST Project Team. Discussion centered on strategy for further developing these criteria and presenting them at the Joint Status Review in August 2019.