

IUG's Support of INTEGRAL

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Contents

*some thoughts how the IUG might join
forces to help INTEGRAL's success in
astrophysics & the science community*

Motivation

★ INTEGRAL's Nominal Mission is Over

- ☞ Much of its basic science goals have been achieved (or else abandoned)
- ☞ The spirit of the "new mission" has decayed
- ☞ Other missions are new, prominent, and promoted (SWIFT, SUZAKU, GLAST)

★ INTEGRAL is an "Extended Mission"

- ☞ The competitive struggle for funding becomes more challenging
- ☞ Excellent people have turned their attention to newer missions
- ☞ It is more difficult/impossible to do "new" things with INTEGRAL
- ☞ Much of the science community has formed & settled their opinion on it

★ The IUG has been re-formed

- ☞ New people with new skills and ideas
- ☞ Inputs from other (and competing) disciplines
- ☞ Broad basis to formulate pro-INTEGRAL science arguments
 - uniqueness, complementarity, quality, ...
- ☞ Broad basis to eliminate weaknesses in INTEGRAL's mission management (should there be any 😊)

★ I discouraged a new IUG community query on how INTEGRAL was perceived

- ☞ so I should have a better idea (?)

Things the IUG Could Do (or improve)

- Themes:

- ☆ **Communicate** in a strategic way with the Community

- 👉 Outgoing

- 👉 Importing

- ☆ **Ensure INTEGRAL's Science Quality**

- 👉 Proposals and AOs

- 👉 Data Products & their Dissemination

Communication with the Community

☆ Queries are of limited usefulness

- 👉 biased sample (experienced people don't respond; complainers do)
- 👉 we know most of our 'weak spots'; query prep & admin is costly
- 👉 what came from the one we did?

☆ Communications need ~'management' and ~'teamwork' (in IUG)

👉 **Assign/nominate an IUG Community-Communication Coordinator** (+PS? broader)

👉 **Outreach is important**

- Ensure important conferences have INTEGRAL results presented/discussed
- Organize/co-organize INTEGRAL conferences/events/sessions
- Collect & maintain presentation & report material for IUG
- Report to IUG (actions, achievements, things-to-do)

👉 **Collecting Criticisms and Stimulations is important**

- Need to "harvest" existing gatherings/voicings
 - » attendance of conferences with INTEGRAL science topics
 - » assembly and digestion of rumors/queries/issues
- Report to IUG (actions, achievements, things-to-do)

👉 **The IUG Maintains an always-visible Communications Monitor**

- » Things achieved
- » Things to do
- » Lessons Learned
- » Efficiency Monitor

Science Quality Monitoring by IUG

★ Tracking of Advances in INTEGRAL's Science Areas

☞ Monitor Papers & Plans per **Science Area**

★ Tracking of Success and Science Impacts for

☞ **Observing Time, and Proposals**

with respect to

- » resources invested, results obtained
- » science appreciation, contribution to science advance

- Action for one/two IUG Members per Area? Rotating?

★ Report & Discussion at IUG Mtgs

» TAC Guidelines Developed from there?

★ Prerequisite: (and Side-Effects)

☞ Define quality criteria for INTEGRAL proposals and observing time

e.g.:

- » stated goals were (xx%) achieved
- » xx scientists with xx personmonths were involved
- » result received xx credits among experts, and xx credits among adjacent / broader community

☞ Define relative merits of science areas of INTEGRAL

☞ Guide future proposal evaluations, and observation scheduling

☞ **IUG (rather than external bodies & committees) defines quality criteria**

Summary: What could we improve, as a group?

- ☆ Be the most critical **Reviewer** of INTEGRAL
- ☆ Be the best-equipped **Advocate** for INTEGRAL
- ☆ **Discuss & Monitor INTEGRAL's Science Goals**
- ☆ **Make IUG Team Work (even) More Interesting for All of Us**