



NEWSLETTER #8

Latest updates for the ORP Consortium

Dear ORP Consortium members,

The activities on ORP continue now at a very steady pace and after a well-deserved summer break, the next major steps of the project are the Mid-Term Review with the European Commission (October) and the Consortium Meeting (November). For the latter, we wanted to evolve the Telescope Directors Forum (the famous TDF) by including it in a larger meeting that would allow everyone to better review the activities of the project, while continuing to think about its future. These are two important meetings in the life of ORP and this is also an exciting opportunity to meet each other and to promote our work.

Regarding the life of ORP, we are delighted to welcome Dan Dicken to the project. He will take over management of the optical CTAC. This was created and has been managed by John Davies for many years. We will thank John and review his long and invaluable service to the community through OPTICON and ORP at the Consortium meeting and in a future article in this Newsletter.

Hélène Dworak, ORP's Project Assistant since the beginning, is also leaving us for a new adventure on another project. I would like to express my sincere and warmest thanks to her for all the work she has done since her arrival and take this opportunity to welcome Chloé Lambert who will replace her as of mid-September. I am sure that Chloe will quickly find her place and bring all her dynamism and enthusiasm to the project.

Wishing you all a very good reading of this Newsletter,
Stéphane Basa, on on behalf of the EMT

Current ORP TNA Opportunities Open

ORP Transnational Access opportunities presently open:

- [Fizeau Programme](#)
- [100-m Effelsberg radio telescope](#)
- [EVN](#)
- [European ARC Network](#)

1st Periodic Report Submitted

At the end of July, the 1st Periodic Report was submitted. Thank you to all participants who contributed to the report and made it possible to meet the deadline with no problem.

The 1st Periodic report can be accessed [here](#).

ORP Mid Term Review on 14 October 2022

The ORP project will undergo its Mid Term Review on 14 October 2022, an official review performed by the EC. The venue will be the Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera in Milano/Italy. See more details and the agenda on the [event page](#).

ORP Consortium Meeting on 29-30 November 2022

The Telescope Directors Forum held in Paris on 1-2 December 2021 was a success. Therefore the ORP Management has decided to combine this meeting with the wish of the Kick-off participants to have annual meetings and decided to have a Consortium Meeting. The event will be on 29-30 November 2022 at SKAO in Jodrell Bank, UK, hosted by the University of Manchester. This meeting will focus on reviewing the project's activities and on structuring future goals. ORP members will have the opportunity to learn about the project developments, to provide input and to develop future steps.

Registration is required on the [event page](#), specifying, if participation will be in person or virtual. Deadline for registration is 30 September 2022.

Chloé Lambert successor of Hélène Dworak



Chloé Lambert will replace Hélène Dworak as ORP Project Assistant as of 19 September 2022. She is 24 years old, originally from Grenoble, France, and has just finished her master's degree in European and International studies at the Aix-Marseille University. She has been working for the last 6 months at the regional council of New Aquitaine in Bordeaux, supporting the cross-border cooperation activities with Spain. She is eager to join the astronomical community to support European scientific excellence.

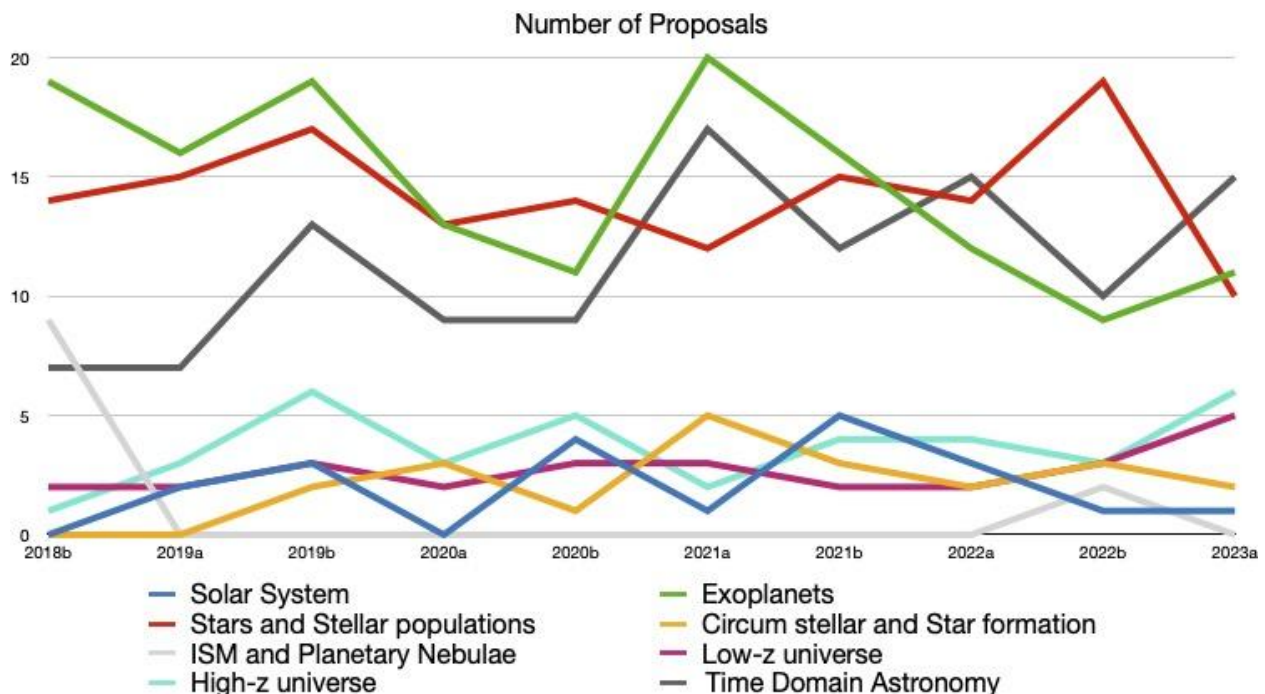
From 19 September on, you can contact her at chloe.lambert@lam.fr.

Dan Dicken WP15 Optical TA Leader - introduction



I'm Dan Dicken, the new WP15 Optical TA leader. I come from a background in astrophysics where I obtained my PhD from Sheffield University working on radio-loud AGN, specifically in the infrared with Spitzer. I then moved to the RIT in Rochester, New York for my first post doc again working with radio galaxies, after which I had a Marie-curie fellowship at IAS in Paris working with Herschel data. From there I moved to CEA-Saclay again in Paris to work as an instrument scientist on JWST MIRI which is where I have spent most of my career culminating in the commissioning of the instrument at the beginning of this year. Now I have just taken up a position in the project science group in the UKATC Edinburgh and will be taking over as the Optical TA Lead from John Davies who is retiring at the end of the year. I don't have much experience in optical ground-based astronomy as my experience is mostly in the infrared in space and radio from the ground, so I have a lot to learn. But I do have a lot of experience working in large consortiums with many stakeholders and so I am looking forward to working with you all and helping out with the work and challenges ahead of us.

Optical TNA call and status of CTAC membership



The ORP Optical Transnational Access Call for semester 2023A closed on the 31st August. We had 50 proposals for this semester which is right on the average for the Optical TA calls. Also consistent with previous calls we had the most proposals for the science areas of stars and stellar populations, time domain astronomy and exoplanets, with the highest number of proposals (15) coming from time domain projects.

The next step for Optical TA is to organise the common telescope allocation committee (CTAC) meeting. The meeting will be in person for the first time since the pandemic and will be hosted by the UKATC in Edinburgh on the 20th and 21st of October. For five of the seven CTAC members this will be their first meeting as we had a large number of retirees from the committee since the last semester. We will have the results of the call shortly after and we can give a full report in the consortium meeting in November.

Fill ORP survey to assess users' needs for astronomical infrastructures

ORP offers access to many of the world's premier optical/IR and radio telescopes and arrays. It aims to develop various services to aid scientific users and facilities. These services include a common proposal submission platform, archival tools, training activities and enhanced user-support, as well as supporting multi-instrument and multi-wavelength projects, and much more. In order to help fulfil the expectations of the user communities we are performing a short survey to help assess needs. Please support us by completing the following short (~3-min) questionnaire. All responses are anonymous.

The questionnaire can be accessed [here](#).

Subscribe to the ORP External Newsletter

In Autumn 2022, we will start the publication of an ORP newsletter aimed at the international astronomical community to showcase the benefits of bringing the optical and radio astronomical ground-based communities together in the ORP framework. **Subscription for the newsletter is available [here](#).**

Please help us spread the update to reach out to as many people as possible!

ERIS 2022

The [European Radio Interferometry School \(ERIS\) 2022](#), the ninth of a series of summer schools, is taking place on 19-23 September 2022 in Dwingeloo/NL, hosted by JIVE - Joint Institute for VLBI ERIC & ASTRON and sponsored by ORP.

ERIS 2022 is a week-long training in techniques of radio interferometry via lectures and tutorials, including e.g. calibration and imaging of continuum, spectral line, and polarisation data and Low frequency (LOFAR domain), cm-wave (e-MERLIN domain), decimetre-wave (HI/OH domain), high frequency (ALMA/IRAM domain), and VLBI interferometry.

Conference on the 40th anniversary of the start of VLBI in Italy planned for May 2023

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the start of VLBI operations in Italy, a [VLBI](#) conference with the provisional title *Bologna-VLBI: Life begins at 40! New frontiers and scientific challenges with enhanced frequency/time/space dynamic range* are planned to take place in Bologna at the [CNR Research Area](#) on 22-26 May 2023.

The conference is aimed at bringing together the astronomical community to discuss and reposition the relevance of milliarcsecond radio astronomy in the current and forthcoming framework of multiband facilities, and in the light of the many new scientific discoveries and advances over the past few years. More information will follow soon.

Workshop Wavefront sensing in the VLT/ELT era VII

WAVEFRONT SENSING IN THE VLT/ELT ERA VII

- IN-PERSON WORKSHOP -

19th-21st October 2022

Porto, Portugal



The workshop [Wavefront sensing in the vlt/elt era VII](#) will take place on 19-21 October 2022 in Porto, Portugal, as sequel of the [Wave-Front Sensor 2021 Workshop](#) held in 2021 in Valparaiso, Chile.

At the workshop *Wavefront sensing in the vlt/elt era VII* a large range of experts in wavefront sensing and instrumentation will help to cover topics like WFS for High-Contrast Imaging (HCI), Hybrid and multi-stage WFSensing, WFS for extended objects, etc. The workshop is free of charge for all participants.

More information [here](#).

Official Inauguration of NOEMA



On 30 September 2022, the inauguration of the NOEMA Observatory by Antoine Petit (CNRS President), Martin Stratmann (MPG President) and Karl Schuster (IRAM Director) will take place; official addresses with an introductory statement by Prof. Reinhard Genzel, Physics Nobel Laureate 2020, in the Superdévouluy ski resort.

The inauguration will be followed by an Astronomy Village on 1-2 October 2022. An ORP team composed of Stéphane Basa, ORP Coordinator, and Chloé Lambert, ORP Project Assistant, will participate and present the project. Come meet them!

Upcoming ORP-related Activities & Events

- [European Radio Interferometry School \(ERIS 2022\)](#) | 19-23 September 2022, Dwingeloo, the Netherlands
- [Official Inauguration of NOEMA & Village de l'Astronomie](#) | 30 September 2022 - 2 October 2022, Superdévouluy, France
- [2022 NEON Observing School](#) | 2-15 October 2022 - Saint-Michel-l'Observatoire, France
- [ORP Mid-term Review](#) | 14 October 2022 - Milano, Italy
- [Wavefront sensing in the vlt/elt era VII](#) | 19-21 October 2022 Porto, Portugal
- [11th IRAM Interferometry School](#) | 21-25 November 2022, Grenoble, France
- [ORP Consortium Meeting](#) | 29-30 November 2022, Jodrell Bank, United Kingdom



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