

Terms of Reference

Heliophysics Geospace Dynamics Constellation Mission Concept Study Science and Technology Definition Team

The Heliophysics Geospace Dynamics Constellation (GDC) Mission Concept Study Science and Technology Definition Team (STDT) is established as a task group of the Heliophysics Advisory Committee (HPAC), an advisory committee established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). The STDT supports the advisory needs of NASA, the Science Mission Directorate (SMD), and the SMD Heliophysics Division. This STDT is established at the discretion of the Director, Heliophysics Division, following consultation with the Associate Administrator, SMD.

The specific goal of the STDT is to define a compelling and executable mission concept for GDC, which is prioritized by the National Academies' 2013 Decadal Survey for Heliophysics. The STDT will conduct a mission concept study and define design reference mission(s) for GDC, including an assessment of the science rationale for the mission and the provision of science parameters, investigation approaches, key mission parameters, and any other scientific studies needed.

All the STDT reports will be submitted to the HPAC. The HPAC will make all STDT reports public and accessible to the extent that is consistent with Federal export control regulations. Interim reports may be provided to the HPAC and made public ahead of the final report.

The Director, Heliophysics Division, will appoint the Chair(s) and members of the STDT. The STDT will have approximately ten to twenty-five members. The membership may exceed twenty-five at the discretion of the Director, Heliophysics Division. The membership will consist of leading authorities with relevant expertise drawn from government, academia, independent researchers, and industry. Members of the STDT who are not Regular Government Employees (RGE) will be designated Special Government Employees (SGE) or Representatives. The task group Chair(s) and up to three other members also may be members of the HPAC. Staff and travel support for the task group Chair(s) and members will be provided by SMD.

The Director, Heliophysics Division, may appoint ex-officio members as needed. The STDT may consult with members of the community as needed to carry out its task, including organizing working groups that include members of the community.

The Director, Heliophysics Division, will appoint a Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the STDT who will coordinate membership, meeting, and other requirements. Logistical support will be provided by SMD.

The task group will hold several meetings per year and be responsive to the requests of the Director, Heliophysics Division, and the Associate Administrator, SMD. The initial meeting of the STDT will occur on a schedule determined by the Chair(s) in consultation with the DFO. The STDT can also have teleconferences on a regular or ad-hoc basis, as needed. Meetings will be called by the STDT Chair(s), and the agendas will be set by the Chair(s) in coordination with the DFO to ensure that planned activities are aligned with programmatic needs and expectations.

The task group will report to the HPAC, and will not provide advice or work products directly to NASA. The STDT Chair(s) or designated member will report on the STDT's recommendations and findings, as

well as its work products, for public deliberation by the HPAC. STDT work products will be made publicly available on a web page. The final report of the STDT is a deliverable to the HPAC. After public deliberation, the HPAC will deliver a final report to NASA reflecting their recommendations and append an unedited copy of the STDT's report.

These Terms of Reference will be terminated at the discretion of the Director, Heliophysics Division, following consultation with the Associate Administrator, SMD, or when the final report is submitted to the HPAC and the HPAC accepts it as appropriate for submission to the Director, Heliophysics Division.

Margaret Luce
Acting Director, Heliophysics Division
NASA Science Mission Directorate

Date _____