

CAA Report

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Recall that the CAA reports to both the Board on
Physics and Astronomy and the Space Studies Board

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Committee on Astronomy and Astrophysics Concerns

CAA met November 3–4 with representatives of NASA, NSF, and DOE.

The imbalance between operations costs of ground based facilities and availability of funding for individual investigator grants at NSF has reached crisis proportions.

Mid-decade review

- Will commence next April with the report expected no more than a year later
- Agreement on the statement of task is nearly complete and the SOT is very similar to SOTs for previous mid-decade reviews
- A potential issue for the mid-decade review is meeting differing expectations from the three agencies
 - NAS A would like answers to questions mid-decade questions posed by Astro2010
 - NASA also is expecting advice on how WFIRST fits in the context of a balanced program
 - NSF and DOE have simpler expectations for the review, and NSF in particular is more concerned about being fairly evaluated in light of their severe budget problems.

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