CDAPS Program Update

Cassini Data Analysis and Participating Scientists Program

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OPAG Atlanta, 10-Jan-2013

CDAPS 2012 Overview

- Total of 132 3-page Step-1 proposals received
- 113 of these submitted 15-page Step-2 proposal, due 25-May-2012
 - 112 US proposals. 37% applied for Participating Scientist (PS).
 - I European PS proposal
- NASA selected 19 US proposals, including 8 PS's. Unofficial letters sent in August, < 90 days after proposals received. Official letters and \$\$ sent last week.
- Total # selected is similar to last year. But selection rate has dropped due to 23% increase in # of proposals.
- Nearly all proposals received full requested funding. Most were 3-year.
- ESA selected 0 of 1 European PS's submitted.



\$5.1 M/yr program budget, plus \$0.4M for PS supplements.

CDAPS 2011 vs. 2012

	2011	2012
Step-I	-	132
Step-2	92	113
Total Selected	18	I9 (~23*)
New NASA PS's	8	8
New ESA PS's	4	0
Selection Rate	20%	I7% (~2I%*)
Budget incl PS	\$5.4M	\$5.5M

(*) CDAPS has funding now to select 4-6 more, and will do so soon.



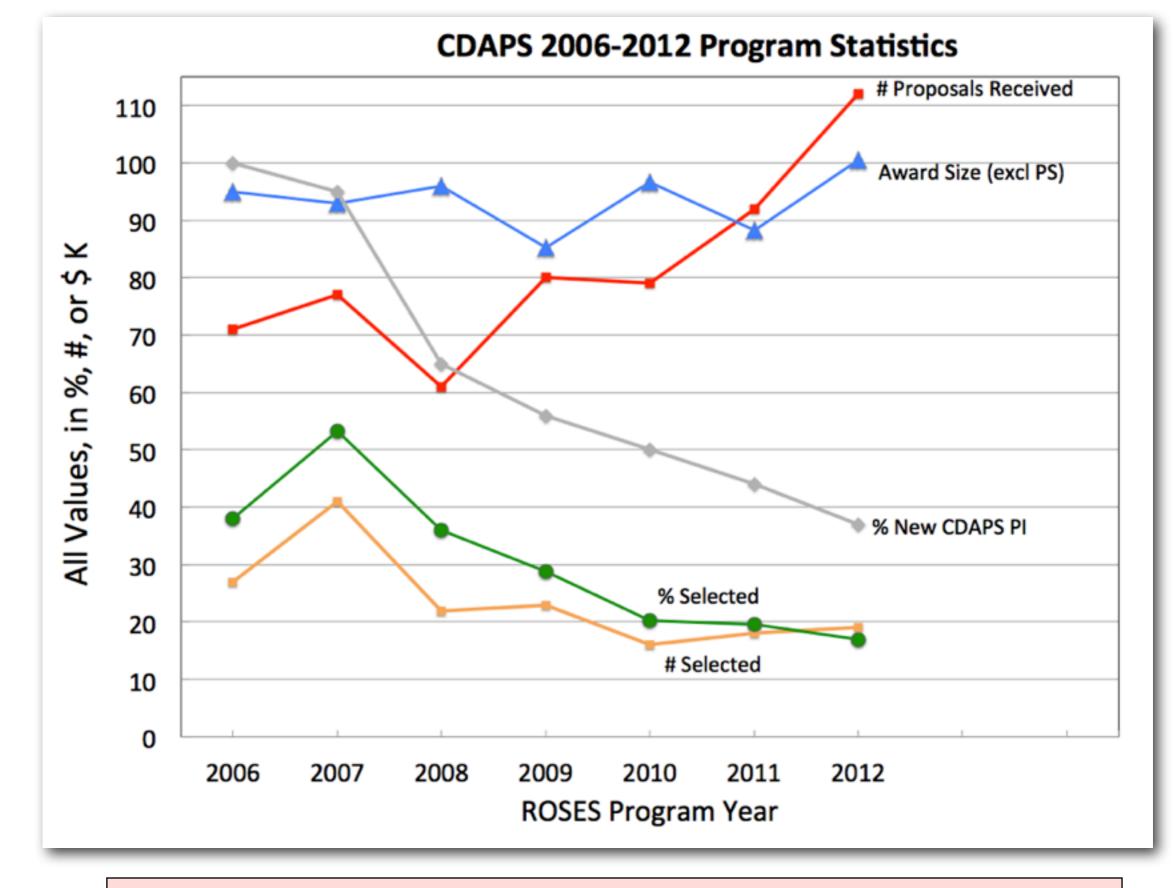
All selections from 2012 and previous years are posted on NSPIRES.

8 New Cassini Participating Scientists

PI	Proposal
Caitlin Griffith (LPL)	Titan's Methane Cycle
Alex Hayes (Cornell)	Seas, Lakes, Channel Networks and Hillslopes: A Coupled Analysis to Explore the Evolution of Titan's Polar Landscapes
Henrik Melin (Space Environment)	Simultaneous infrared and ultraviolet observations of Saturns aurora using Cassini VIMS and UVIS
Francis Nimmo (UCSC)	Integrating shape and gravity data to investigate Saturnian satellite structure and evolution
Chris Parkinson (U. Mich)	Analysis of Extreme and Far Ultraviolet Observations of Saturn's Atmosphere
Mark Perry (APL)	Analysis of INMS observations of ions and neutrals in Saturn's inner magnetosphere
Joe Spitale (PSI)	Instantaneous Jet Source Locations on Enceladus: Testing the Tidal Control Hypothesis
Matt Tiscareno (Cornell)	Saturn's Rings on the Edge
Ann Verbiscer (Cornell)	Spectrophotometric Analysis of Thermally Anomalous Terrain on Icy Saturnian Satellites



These new PS's join the existing 12 chosen last year.





CDAPS proposal pressure has doubled since 2008. But program budget has been flat, so selection rate has dropped significantly.

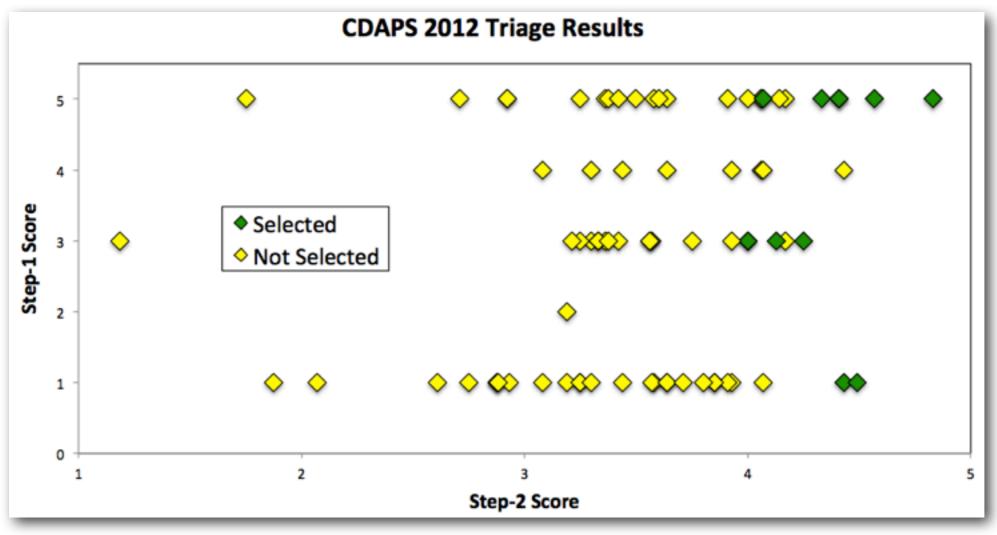
Two-Step Proposal Results

- In 2012 CDAPS tried a two-step process, to speed up review process. This was modeled on reviews done in Heliophysics and NSF. Two goals:
 - Reduce the burden on proposers and reviewers by reducing the number of proposals at panel.
 - Assemble panel faster because we have list of Col's.
- Program Officers read the mandatory 3-page Step-I proposals, and rated proposals 'encourage' or 'discourage.'
- Result: It was very difficult to predict how competitive a proposal would be based on a 3-page summary. As a result, virtually all PI's were encouraged to submit Step-2.



Why did the Two-Step Not Work?

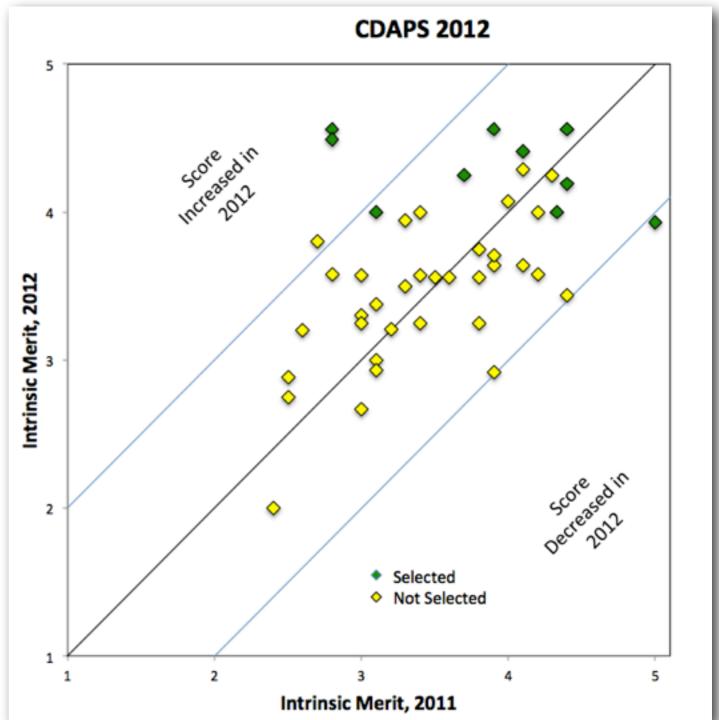
- Program officers tried to rate the Step-I's but couldn't do so reliably.
- After selections were made, CDAPS set up a special 'mini triage review panel' to have several reviewers from the community rate the Step-I's. We compared the reviewers' assessment of the Step-I's to the panel's actual rating of the Step-2's. This was only an experiment, and didn't affect the real review.
- Conclusion: There was only a tenuous correlation between Step-I and Step-2 scores, meaning that even individual expert reviewers can't judge a proposal by its 3-page abstract.





Year-to-Year Consistency of Panel Scores

- In this year's CDAPS, 44 of 113 proposals (37%) were re-submissions of similar proposed declined in last year's CDAPS.
 Comparing year-to-year scores allows HQ to assess consistency of panels, which had different panelists, different program officers, etc.
 - Median change in proposal score on resubmitted proposals is ~0.35 points.
 - Of 44 re-submitted proposals, three improved by > 1 point, and one dropped a full point.
 - Selection rate for first-time proposals: 17%. For re-submitted proposals: 17%.
- All proposals are handled identically --NASA does not tell reviewers about a proposal's history.





Upcoming CDAPS 2013 Plans

- Overall program essentially same as last year.
- Will likely require a mandatory NOI with binding Co-I list, but not a 3-page narrative like in 2012.
- Participating Scientist Program to continue, with format of proposal TBD as per Curt.
- New Program Officer.

Questions? hq-cdap@mail.nasa.gov or Max Bernstein

