

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE
Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment

Committee on Analysis of Causes of Failure and Collapse of the
305-Meter Telescope at the Arecibo Observatory

Meeting #1

TOPICS

- Study Intentions
- Expected Outcomes
- Overview of NSF Facilities Oversight
- Arecibo Observatory Oversight and Management
- Arecibo Observatory Operations and Maintenance during Grant Competition and Transition
- Sequence of Failure Events and Actions Taken

January 24-25, 2022

Eastern Standard Time

National Academy of Sciences

<https://livestream.com/accounts/7036396/events/10079463>

DAY ONE

January 24, 2022; Virtual

OPEN SESSION

1:00 Welcome

Roger McCarthy, Chair

1:15 Open Discussion of Task Statement and NSF Intent

Jim Ulvestad, Senior Advisor for Research Security at National Science Foundation (NSF)

2:45 *break*

3:00 NSF Facility Oversight

Matt Hawkins, Head, Large Facilities Office at National Science Foundation (NSF)

Linnea Avallone, Chief Officer for Research Facilities at National Science Foundation (NSF)

4:15 Wrap-up

4:30 Adjourn open session

CLOSED SESSION

DAY TWO

January 25, 2021; Virtual

OPEN SESSION

1:00 Briefing from UCF

Francisco Cordova, Director- U.S. National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center at University of Central Florida

2:00 Arecibo Observatory Competition and Operations and Maintenance Transition

Ralph Gaume, Expert, Office of the Assistant Director, Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, at National Science Foundation

Mike Wiltberger, Deputy Director, High Altitude Observatory, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), former Section Head of the Geospace Section in the Division of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences (AGS), at National Science Foundation (NSF)

3:00 break

3:15 Failure Event Sequence

Ashley VanderLey, Senior Advisor for Facilities, Division of Astronomical Sciences at National Science Foundation (NSF)

Jim Ulvestad, Senior Advisor for Research Security at National Science Foundation (NSF)

4:30 adjourn open session

CLOSED SESSION