

## **VDFS-WSA Monthly Report: 2004 Quarter 4, October-December: Narrative**

### **1. General**

During Quarter 4, we submitted the bid for revision/rollover of our WFAU RG, including funding for operation of the WFCAM and VISTA Science Archives. We bid for one astronomer/operator to start as soon as possible and work alongside the development team during the shakedown period, and a second astronomer/operator in 2007, at the end of the development phase. We bid for additional disk purchases over the 5-year period to keep up with the WFCAM and VISTA data we expected to ingest and for a reasonable level of maintenance support. During October, NCH attended the Gaia meeting at Meudon and MAR attended and presented a poster at the ADASS meeting. Together with JMS, we have developed our project plans so that overall progress can be more easily tracked using earned value analysis. We have assisted AstroGrid staff with publishing Science Archive data in AstroGrid infrastructure (Publisher's AstroGrid Library).

### **2. Hardware**

The disk upgrades for one of the catalogue servers, "amenhotep", have been installed and the SSA and auxiliary catalogue databases were built on it. This has proved to be stable, and is now the public data server. Just before Christmas, the disk system for "ahmose" was upgraded similarly. Additional air-conditioning is being installed in the computer room housing the data servers.

### **3. Software**

Progress this quarter is summarized in the "traditional" report table and also in the context of Earned Value analysis of the whole Phase B (Versions 2-3) in a new summary table. The value earned in the first quarter is less than proportionate to the elapsed time because we were short staffed and effort was required for the RG revision. Once the new appointees take up their posts and work on the 6dF galaxy survey archive terminates, the rate should increase.

### **4. Plans for 2005 Quarter 1 (Q2 of the project, new style).**

We are deferring detailed planning for a couple of weeks until the first of the new staff, Nick Cross, is in post (the second appointee has just asked us to defer his starting date for family reasons) but we will clearly continue with V2 software and planning for V4 in preparation for the proposed design review.

PMW

6 Jan 2005