

Coordinating Center Report

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Abstract This report summarizes the activities of the IVS Coordinating Center during the 2021 and 2022 calendar years and provides an outlook on activities planned for the next two years.

1 Coordinating Center Operation

The IVS Coordinating Center is based at the Goddard Space Flight Center and is operated by NEOS (National Earth Orientation Service), a joint effort for VLBI by the U.S. Naval Observatory and the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

The mission of the Coordinating Center is to provide communications and information for the IVS community and the greater scientific community and to coordinate the day-to-day and long-term activities of the IVS.

The Web server for the Coordinating Center is provided by Goddard. The address is

<https://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

2 Activities during 2021 and 2022

During the period from January 2021 through December 2022, the Coordinating Center supported the following IVS activities:

NVI, Inc./NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Coordinating Center

IVS 2021+2022 Biennial Report

- **Directing Board support:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board did not hold any in-person meetings in 2021 and 2022. In its place shorter ersatz meetings from two to four hours long were organized via Zoom. Virtual Board meetings took place in March, July, and September of 2021 as well as January, April, and September of 2022. Directing Board meetings are expected to return to an in-person environment in 2023. Notes from each meeting were published on the IVS website.
- **Observing Program Committee (OPC):** Coordinated meetings of the OPC to monitor the observing program, review problems and issues, and discuss changes.
- **Master Schedules for 2021 and 2022:** Generated and maintained the Master Observing Schedules for 2021 and 2022. Coordinated VLBI resources for observing time, correlator usage, and disk modules. Coordinated the usage of Mark 5 and Mark 6 systems at IVS stations and efficient deployment of disk modules.
- **2022 and 2023 Master Schedules:** Generated the proposed Master Schedules for 2022 and 2023 and received approval from the Observing Program Committee.
- **VGOS:** Supported the activities for establishing the VLBI Global Observing System (VGOS) through participation in the VGOS Technical Committee (VTC) and organizing meetings of the VGOS Operations and Resources group and the VGOS Correlators.
- **Communications support:** Maintained the Web pages and e-mail lists. The IVS mailing lists are part of the NASA-wide Agency Mailing List Service (AMLS). In May 2021, AMLS was migrated to a new host organization as well as

upgraded to the newest list manager. For the migration, all membership information and list options were rolled over from the old to the new lists. The mailing list names did not change. All subscription requests are handled via e-mail either directly to the list or to the list managers. The Coordinating Center curates and updates the status of each list so that it reflects the most recent version of the subscription list. The general public (i.e., non-NASA users) can no longer access the Web interface, including the list archives. The Coordinating Center also maintained the 24-hour and Intensive session Web pages including the data acquisition, correlation, analysis, and performance summaries.

- **Publications:** Published the 2019+2020 Biennial Report in October 2021. Published six editions of the IVS Newsletter in the months of April, August, and December of 2021 and 2022. Published the 2022 General Meeting Proceedings in late 2022. All publications are available in electronic form only and can be found at <https://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/publications/>.



Fig. 1 Logo of the 11th IVS Technical Operations Workshop.

- **Meetings:** Coordinated, with Local Committees, the 11th IVS Technical Operations Workshop, held virtually in May 2021, and the 12th IVS General Meeting, held virtually in March 2022. The GM was originally slated to be held in Helsinki, Finland, from March 27–April 1, 2022, but it had to be moved to cyberspace because of the pandemic. Chaired the Program Committees of both meetings.



Fig. 2 Logo of the 12th General Meeting Proceedings, held in cyberspace in March 2022.

3 Staff

The staff of the Coordinating Center is drawn from individuals who work at Goddard. The staff and their responsibilities during 2021–2022 are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 IVS Coordinating Center staff.

Name	Title	Responsibilities
Dirk Behrend	Director	Web site and e-mail system maintenance, Directing Board support, meetings, publications, session Web page monitoring
Cynthia Thomas	Operation Manager	Master Schedules (current year), resource management and monitoring, meeting and travel support, special sessions
Mario Bérubé	Offsite Consultant	Session processing scripts, Data Center support
Karen Baver	General Programmer and Editor	Publication processing programs, LaTeX support and editing, Data Center support
Kyla Armstrong	Data Technician and Editor	Publications support and Web site support

4 Plans for 2023 and 2024

The Coordinating Center plans for 2023 and 2024 include the following:

- Maintain the IVS website and mailing lists. Modernize the IVS website.
- Publish the 2021+2022 Biennial Report (this volume).
- Coordinate the 12th IVS Technical Operations Workshop together with MIT Haystack Observa-

- tory, to be held in-person for the first time since 2019, in May 2023.
- Coordinate, with the local committee, the 13th IVS General Meeting and 25th IVS Anniversary event, both to be held in Tsukuba, Japan in March 2024.
 - Maintain the new ingest software at the Data Centers and work on a clean-up of the data holdings. Ensure that the mirroring among the Data Centers works properly.
 - Publish the Proceedings volume of the 13th IVS General Meeting.
 - Support Directing Board meetings in 2023 and 2024.
 - Coordinate the 2023 and 2024 Master Observing Schedules and IVS resources.
 - Publish Newsletter issues in April, August, and December of 2023 and 2024.
 - Support the VGOS activities within the VTC, the VGOS Operations and Resources group, and the VGOS Correlators.