



Giant Magellan Telescope Project



Dr. Patrick McCarthy joined The Observatories as a Carnegie Fellow in 1988, after completing his Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley and receiving the Klumpke-Roberts Prize for outstanding research. Dr. McCarthy received the prestigious Hubble Fellowship in 1991, and joined the faculty at the Observatories in 1992. He is known for his work on galaxies in the distant universe and in particular for his study of distant low frequency cosmic radio sources: sign posts to massive galaxies undergoing rapid accretion on to massive black holes.

Dr. McCarthy has been active in scientific and management oversight of large science projects and organizations. He has chaired numerous panels for NASA and the National Science Foundation, providing independent oversight of the Hubble Space, Spitzer Space Telescope and large telescopes on the ground. He was a member of the science team for the Wide-Field Camera 3 recently installed on Hubble and providing breathtaking new views of the early Universe.

He became involved with the GMT project very early in its development. McCarthy led the GMT Science Working Group that wrote the scientific case for the telescope project and defined the scientific and technical requirements for the facility. In 2008 the GMTO Board appointed him as the GMTO Director, the chief executive of the non-profit corporation charged with carrying out the development and operation of the telescope and related facilities. His responsibilities include ensuring that the telescope and its instruments will be able to address the key questions at the forefront of astrophysics when it goes into operations near the end of the decade.

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