



LSSTC Mission and 2017–2022 Strategic Plan November 1, 2016

Mission: The LSST Corporation (LSSTC) is a consortium of member institutions with a common strong interest in the scientific outcome of LSST. The primary mission of LSSTC is to advance understanding of the dynamic universe by enabling LSST science through research, education and outreach. The principal ways the Corporation will carry out this mission are through (a) partnering with the NSF (AURA) and DOE (SLAC) during LSST construction and operations; (b) engaging and representing international contributors in LSST operations; and (c) enabling the full science exploitation of the unique LSST data set.

Goals: The Corporation defines several goals as necessary to achieve the LSSTC mission. We must develop and maintain a functioning and productive relationship between LSSTC and its partners (AURA, SLAC) in support of LSST operations. We must represent our member institutions and international contributors responsibly. We must build a robust science- and education-based fund development program. We must disseminate these funds to promote science and education with the LSST data. LSSTC must be a pre-eminent and sustainable organization in order to carry out these goals.

Strategy: The goals of the LSSTC demand that objectives be defined and met for working with and for our partners and the science community. We will expand our funding base from the international community to support LSST operations. We will develop a charter that defines the roles and responsibilities of, and advantages to, the international contributors and our plan to represent them. We will advocate for LSST science funding and will develop resilient science communities by securing private funding to support LSST science and education. We will support networks and collaborations among the LSSTC institutional members and international contributors to increase collective action. We will develop a management plan to promote financial sustainability, business efficiency and overall quality of the organization. We will enable the development, training and education of a new generation of young scientists and researchers. We will foster new modes of interdisciplinary development and collaboration at the crossroads of astronomy, physics, computer science, mathematics and information science.

Role of LSSTC: The LSSTC Mission, Goals, and Strategy define a unique and focused role for LSSTC in the coming years, to secure international and private funding, and to promote collective action from the member institutions for the benefit of LSST science, which will address some of the most profound scientific questions we have about the nature of the physical universe and the objects in it.