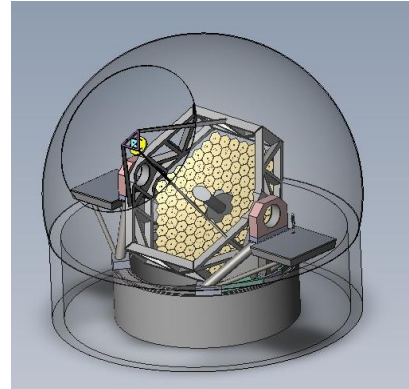




## New York State Observatory

A Telescope For All New York

- **New York Astronomical Corporation (NYAC)**, an NFP entity comprised of 23 New York public and private college and university partners seeks to construct a **12 Meter Optical/Near-Infrared Telescope**.
- The telescope is similar to the Keck telescopes but is **1.75 X larger** in collecting area.
  - The telescope is lighter and simpler than Keck and hence is **less expensive**.
  - It can carry **multiple scientific instruments** and two are planned for First Light operation.
  - If completed within 10 years, it will be the **largest telescope in the world** by a significant margin.
- Sites under consideration include **Chile and Hawaii** owing to excellence of observing conditions, existing infrastructure to support observatory development and operation and opportunities for collaboration with entities such as the US or Canadian National Observatories.
- Five NY based industrial partners have already partnered in development of concepts: Corning Glass, ITT (now Excelsis), EMF, Triodetic, and Toptica. As a goal, **More than 50% of telescope development funds would remain in NY.**
- The telescope will be built and operated for the use of all colleges and universities in NY State; **(i) to advance astrophysics and technology in NY, (ii) to connect undergraduate serving and R1 Universities in the State for astrophysical research, (iii) to enable NY universities to substantially increase their federal grant funding, and (iv) to support growth of NY technology and science based jobs.**
- NYAC is currently initiating feasibility and concept design studies. Development from initiation to completion is anticipated to take 7 years. Pending success of fund-raising efforts, **NYAC anticipates the Project to begin in earnest in 2013 and complete in 2020.**
- The project is expected to **cost \$105 M** based on estimates of early concept designs. The funding is required **over a 7-year development period.**
- NYAC anticipates securing **funding from a number of sources** including state government, private donors, partner institutions, and other potential partners, such as out-of-state institutions and foreign countries if needed.
- Early estimates predict that of order **580 Man-Years of NY State jobs** will be created by the Project over 20 years including the Project Team, industrial contracts, operations staff, faculty and staff at NY colleges and universities.
- **The Observatory will provide a major focus and impetus to astrophysics research and technology development in New York that will advance education, technology, science, the economy, and jobs for decades.**



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