

Dear colleagues,

In my announcement of 22-Dec-2008, I indicated that UKIRT would operate exclusively in wide-field survey mode from 1st February 2009. This change has now been implemented and as a consequence WFCAM will be the only operational instrument on the telescope for the foreseeable future.

Our science mission now is to complete the UKIDSS programme as quickly as possible, but I also seek to optimise the science programme of the telescope within that constraint. Careful analysis indicates that we can continue to support limited PATT and service programmes within existing resources and without compromising the end-date of UKIDSS. Accordingly, a call for proposals for semester 09B will be issued shortly.

Professor Gary Davis
Director JAC
12th February 2009.