

Facilities and resources at Steward Observatory

As indicated in section 2 of the Project Description, one goal of the proposed research is to take advantage of the 10-meter Submillimeter Telescope (SMT), which went into operation on Mt Graham in southeastern Arizona in 1993. The current complement of receivers includes SIS-mixer systems for the 200-500 GHz atmospheric windows. Of particular relevance is the new 7-beam DesertSTAR receiver for 345 GHz operation, the Supercam 64-beam receiver that will replace it in 2008, and the upgraded 230 GHz balanced mixer receiver with ALMA Band 6 mixers.

Steward Observatory also shares in the operation of the 6.5-meter Multiple Mirror Telescope (MMT) on Mt Hopkins, operates a 2.3-meter telescope on Kitt Peak, and a 1.5-meter telescope on Mt Bigelow. A variety of instruments is available on these telescopes – of special note is the adaptive optics f/15 secondary which will be used with ARIES as described in the Project Description.

Steward Observatory maintains a local computer network, built around a number of PC workstations, and provides access to national/international networks.