

UNSW



MICHAEL C. B. ASHLEY

PROFESSOR
Department of Astrophysics and Optics
School of Physics

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Dr. Craig Kulesa
The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721 USA

Dear Craig,

I acknowledge that I am identified by name as a collaborator on the investigation entitled 'Phase 2 Development of the HEAT Observatory at Ridge A' that is being submitted by Dr. Craig Kulesa in response to NSF Program Solicitation 15-1 (Advanced Technologies & Inst.), and that I intend to carry out all responsibilities identified for me in this proposal. I understand that the extent and justification of my participation as stated in this proposal will be considered during peer review in determining in part the merits of this proposal.

The development of the PLATO-R observatory supporting the HEAT telescope at Ridge A was funded by the Australian Federal Government with a \$500k grant to my research group. UNSW, Astronomy Australia Limited, and the Australian Antarctic Division, have since contributed in excess of \$300k directly and in-kind. We have provided 2-3 scientists and engineers to assist with the work at Ridge A each year, and we also remotely operate the PLATO-R observatory.

The HEAT project—operating a state-of-the-art THz telescope at a deep field site 950km from South Pole—is an extraordinary achievement. The quality of the data returned has demonstrated the exceptional qualities of the Ridge A site. This new NSF proposal represents an exciting jump in capabilities for HEAT, and I am pleased to reaffirm the commitment of my research group to working on the project.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Michael Ashley