

Astro2020 State of the Profession and Societal Impacts
Excerpts Supporting a Community Astronomy Model
April 24, 2022

The native Hawaiian voice in the governance of Maunakea is an important and necessary element in efforts to develop a values-based Community Astronomy model as outlined in the Astro2020 Decadal Survey.

This strategic document, developed by the US National Research Council, serves as an important roadmap of astronomical priorities over the next 10 years and is used by federal agencies (e.g. Congress, presidential administrations, National Science Foundation, etc.) to inform decision-making in the field.

Per the **Astro2020 State of the Profession and Societal impacts**:
<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/resource/26141/interactive/>

**Section 3.4.1 Engagement with Local and Indigenous Communities:
The Model of Community Based Science**

“Community-based science—a model for research in which at every step in a project at least partial control remains with the community—is an approach that has been implemented to various degrees in archaeology, forestry, arctic science, and others. It can serve as an example for a Community Astronomy approach to active, upfront, and sustained engagement with local and Indigenous communities.” [Section 3-33, Figure 3.14]

“The model of community-based science calls for researchers not to insist on exclusive control even in situations where it would be legally permitted to do so” [Section 3-32, Box 3.3] and *“...would ensure that local stakeholders have meaningful influence—including through decision-making and governance structures at every stage—and involve local stakeholders in periodic assessments of when to decommission facilities.”* [Section 3-35]

“Conclusion: NSF, NASA, DOE, facility managing organizations, project consortia, individual institutions, and other stakeholders can work to build partnerships with Indigenous and local communities that are more functional and sustained through a Community Astronomy approach, and by increasing the modes of engagement and funding for: (i) meaningful, mutually beneficial partnerships with Indigenous and local communities, (ii) culturally supported pathways for the inclusion of Indigenous members within the profession, and (iii) true sustainability, preservation, and restoration of sites.”

[Section 3-35]

It is through the lens of this framework that we remain deeply committed to ensuring the local and native Hawaiian community is included as we work together in forging a positive future for Maunakea.