Introduction
The Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) is an international consortium consisting of a small number of partners that share the costs of the telescope, in return for corresponding fractions of the available observing time. Some of the partners have also made in-kind contributions, in the form of instruments and/or other intellectual property, to secure their membership.

Access
Each partner country or institution has their own time allocation committee and scientists outside the consortium who wish to use SALT are welcome to collaborate with those affiliated with partner institutions. SALT also has a limited amount of fully free Director’s Discretionary Time available for, e.g., unexpected events, where SALT’s rapid response time is particularly attractive.

Mission
SALT’s mission is twofold: to provide a world-class large telescope research facility cost-effectively to astronomers in an international community, and to lead the advancement and development of optical astronomy on the African continent and inspire and educate new generations of scientists and engineers worldwide.

SALT Collateral Benefits Programme
The SALT Collateral Benefits Programme (SCBP) was established during the construction of SALT with the mandate of utilising the knowledge, technology and other available resources within the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) and similar institutions in order to facilitate education enhancement, science communication, socio-economic development and public engagement and thereby contribute to the improvement of the quality of life at all people within reach.
Republic of South Africa
South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF) is the majority shareholder in SALT, with a 45% ownership stake. Currently, about 200 PhD astronomers are currently employed by the NRF. The South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) is contracted to host and operate SALT. The telescope is located on the Sutherland site of the Observatory, which is about 400 km from Cape Town and one of the darkest sites in the world. One of SALT's strategic objectives is Human Capital Development: the SALT Collateral Benefits Programme (SCBP) was established during the construction of SALT and is mainly directed at schools but also includes outreach to the general public.

Board members
- Molapo Qhobela, NRF
- Lisa Crause, SAAO
Location
- SAAO, Cape Town & SALT, Sutherland, RSA
Coordinates
- SALT: -32° 22' 56" 33" S  20° 05" S
- S -18° 59' W


University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
UW-Madison is the official state university of Wisconsin and has more than 43 000 students enrolled. The university contributed both to the construction as well as designing and building the Robert Stobie Spectrophotometer (RSS). Wisconsin is currently building the near-infrared arm of RSS in its Waislitz Laboratory.

Board member
- Eric Wilcots
Location
- Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Coordinates
- 43°04′30″N 89°25′02″W


Rutgers University, USA
Rutgers University is the largest institution of higher education in New Jersey. Originally chartered as Queen's College in 1766, it is the eighth-oldest college in the United States. More than 68 000 students are enrolled. Today the astronomy group includes 15 astronomers and 15 graduate students. Rutgers' astronomers participated in the design, development and fabrication of the RSS and led the effort to build the Fabry-Perot Imaging Spectrophotometer subsystem.

Board member
- Jack Hughes
Location
- New Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A.
Coordinates
- 40°36′5″N 74°26′53″W


University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
The University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill is one of the 17 campuses of the University of North Carolina system. It is the eighth-oldest college in the United States. More than 68 000 students are enrolled. Today the astronomy group includes 15 astronomers and 15 graduate students. Rutgers' astronomers participated in the design, development and fabrication of the RSS and led the effort to build the Fabry-Perot Imaging Spectrophotometer subsystem.

Board member
- Brian Chaboyer
Location
- Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A.
Coordinates
- 43°04′30″N 89°25′02″W


Inter-University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics, India
The Inter-University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics (IUCAA) was established in 1988 by the University Grants Commission of India in Pune. The main objectives are to provide a centre of excellence within the university sector for teaching, research and development in astronomy and astrophysics, as well as to promote nuclear and growth of active groups in these areas in colleges and universities.

Board member
- Somaik Raychaudhury
Location
- Pune, Maharashtra, India
Coordinates
- 18°33′34″N 73°48′31″E


The American Museum of Natural History, USA
The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York City is one of the largest museums in the world. The Rose Center for Earth and Space, which is part of the museum, hosts, among others, the Department of Astrophysics. Besides astrophysical research it provides scientific support for outreach activities and exhibits in the museum. AMNH became a member of SALT in 2008 on the basis of a gift from the late Paul Newman.

Board member
- Michael Shara (chair)
Location
- New York City, New York, U.S.A.
Coordinates
- 40°46′50″N 73°58′29″W