

Radio Astronomy – Past, Present, and Future

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Abstract — Radio Astronomy grew from an accidental discovery in 1932, virtually ignored for years, to a prolific window to a previously invisible universe, producing four Nobel Prizes. A major new international instrument, the Square Km Array, is now in the detailed design phase and alternative next steps in the US are being explored. The current state-of-the-art and future directions of receivers will be briefly presented. The evolution of the VLA will be described along with the status of the SKA and plans for a next generation of the VLA. Finally, I will present my views concerning some of the vital global policies relevant to astronomy.