

# 2025 (Dec) ENSCI User Panel Report

Dec 4, 2025 held over zoom

## Members of User Panel

- **Dr. Eric Murphy** (UVA, NRAO; chair)
- **Prof. Caitlin M. Casey** (UC Santa Barbara; EC)
- **Prof. Yicheng Guo** (U. Missouri)
- **Prof. Michael Rutkowski** (Minnesota State University)
- **Prof. Gabriela Canalizo** (UC Riverside)
- **Prof. Daniel R. Weisz** (UC Berkeley)
- **Prof. Anja von der Linden** (Stony Brook)
- **Prof. Lado Samushia** (Kansas State)

**Link to presentation material:**

<https://collaboration.ipac.caltech.edu/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=205847883&spaceKey=EU&title=4%2BDecember%2B2025>

**Link to May 2025 report:**

<https://euclid.caltech.edu/download/MediaFile/41/binary/original>

## Executive Summary:

The Euclid NASA Science Center at IPAC (ENSCI) User Panel convened via zoom on December 4, 2025. This makeup of the User Panel included the same membership as its last meeting, though Prof. Caitlin Casey was absent. The User Panel was chaired by Eric Murphy.

During the meeting, ENSCI provided a list of questions for the panel to consider during this review. The members of the ENSCI team additionally made 5 presentations to the panel covering status updates to both Euclid and ENSCI, responses to the past (May 2025) panel report, IRSA-Euclid Archive updates, and Euclid Notebook progress, along with what is being planned for the January AAS Data access and Exploration Workshop. In the following report, we briefly comment on ENSCI's handling of recommendations from previous reports, as well as provide responses to the questions that that panel was asked to focus on.

The panel would like to thank all of the speakers for their clear presentations, and ensuring that there was sufficient time to take questions and have discussions during the meeting. The panel would like to acknowledge that the ENSCI team has done a remarkable job since our last meeting only ~7 months ago to address our previous list of comments. The panel was thoroughly impressed with how much progress has been made, especially during what has been a rather chaotic time. It was refreshing to hear that based on the guidance provided by NASA, funding for Euclid seems to be secure for the rest of FY26, and that Euclid is being prioritized as an operating mission that is part of an international partnership.

It is clear that the ENSCI team is providing a tremendous service that will help ensure that the US-based Euclid user community is able to capitalize on the recent release of Q1 data, which should additionally translate into helping the US community being ready for the more substantial DR1 data release next fall. We would like to thank the ENSCI team for all that they do to help ensure that the US community has the tools available to sufficiently exploit these data and maximize the scientific return on the US participation in Euclid.

## Response to Previous UP Comments:

The User Panel greatly appreciates all of the time and effort that the ENSCI team has spent in responding to the previous User Panel report. As stated above, the panel was thoroughly impressed with the amount of work that ENSCI was able to get done over the last ~7 months since our last meeting. Some examples include:

- Improved discoverability of notebooks on the Euclid website
- A notebook illustrating the use of `query_ssa`
- Improved visibility of IRSA resources on the Euclid website
- Continuation of User Surveys after DR1

We also would like to thank ENSCI for continuing to try to work with ESA to ensure that the US community's comments and concerns are heard.

## Response to ENSCI Questions to the User Panel:

1. ENSCI is preparing for DR1, and this is one of the main purposes of this meeting. Does the panel feel we are on the right track, based on following their previous advice?

The panel generally felt that ENSCI appears to be on the right track heading towards DR1 in October 2026 based on how much work has been done to support the Q1 data release. However, it was hard to initially assess the extent of their preparedness given what was presented. After some additional discussion, it was made clear to the panel that ENSCI will receive DR1 data products early enough in the process to better understand them and adequately prepare for the public release. Furthermore, it was stated that much of what has been developed for Q1 (i.e., tools/notebooks) will in fact be applicable for DR1 data exploration.

That said, and given the paradigm shift to having to work exclusively in the cloud for DR1 data, the panel strongly recommends that ENSCI continually remind the community about this, and provide as many tools/guides to prepare them for accessing and analyzing data in this way now, so that they are truly ready on day one.

2. After the in person AAS workshop, our plan is to do a webinar on the same/similar material from the workshop. Does the panel think this is the most useful thing to do? Or should we wait on a webinar until we have more new content/more new notebooks?

Given all of the effort that is being put into the preparation and execution of the AAS workshop, the panel felt that this information would be useful for the community to access via a webinar. For example, if possible, it might be useful to record the talks from the AAS meeting itself and make them available to the community.

There was some concern that effort should not be taken away from planning to get the community ready for DR1, given that data access and analysis will be different as it will be completely cloud-based and through a science platform (FORNAX). After some additional discussion with the ENSCI team, it was made clear that many of the notebooks and tutorials from the workshop should be useful for working with DR1 products, including notebooks that access Q1 data via the cloud. The panel therefore recommends that the workshop and following webinar focus on using notebooks that point to the cloud, as well as start to introduce the community to fornax so that they will be ready to access the beta version when available early in the new year.