

Date: 24 January 2012 15:47:03 GMT+01:00

Dear Colleagues,

The ESO workshop "Science from the Next Generation Imaging and Spectroscopic Surveys" will be held at the ESO headquarters in Garching from the 15th to the 18th of October 2012. Below, please find the 1st announcement.

Please circulate this announcement among your collaborators in other observatories and research institutes, and we are looking forward to seeing you at the workshop,

Best regards

Magda Arnaboldi & Marina Rejkuba

On behalf of SOC & LOC

First Announcement

The ESO workshop

Title: Science from the Next Generation Imaging and Spectroscopic Surveys

<http://www.eso.org/sci/meetings/2012/surveys2012.html>

15-18 of October, 2012, at the ESO Headquarters in Garching, Germany

Aim and scope:

With the addition of VISTA and VST imaging survey facilities to the La Silla-Paranal Observatory and the start of the selected spectroscopic public surveys ESO and European astronomy have firmly entered the era of large public surveys. The aim of the ESO workshop "Science from the Next Generation Imaging and Spectroscopic Surveys" is to present scientific results from the first two years of science operations of the VISTA public surveys, the first year of the VST public surveys, and an overview of spectroscopic public survey projects at ESO. The first results from the nine ongoing imaging public surveys from VISTA and VST will be featured through the invited talks by the survey PIs as well as contributed talks from survey team members. The scientific usage of public survey data products, including the community's science goals based on Public Surveys Archive data, will be discussed. Another goal of the workshop is to put the ESO public survey projects in the context of other on-going or planned large Optical and NIR imaging surveys such as SDSS III projects, PANStars, LSST, SkyMapper, UKIDSS, GAIA and also within the context of spectroscopic surveys carried out at other telescope facilities and/or as follow-up of imaging surveys. As ESO public surveys cover such a wide range of topics in observational astronomy, this workshop will not concentrate on specific scientific areas, but rather show the exciting new results coming from large surveys and how overall astronomical knowledge can be advanced using public survey data. To this end, contributed talks from scientists that have used public survey data for their own science, but do not necessarily belong to some specific group that has led/executed the surveys, will be encouraged. The topic of data mining and availability of data products for a wide science use by the community will also be discussed. Contributions from open time and GTO projects on the ESO survey telescopes VISTA and VST will also be welcome. The workshop will then end with a panel discussion with a forward look on how large collaborations and big projects are organized in other communities (e.g. CERN, ITER).

Main Science Topics include

- * VISTA public surveys science
- * First results from the VST public surveys observations
- * Overview of spectroscopic public surveys at ESO
- * On-going and planned large survey projects
- * Data mining and the availability of survey products for wide science use by the community

Workshop Venue and Accommodation

The workshop will be held in the ESO Auditorium, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, Garching b. Muenchen. Garching lies about 13 km north-east of Munich and 17 km south-west of Munich international airport (Franz Josef Strauss). The hotels are in Garching and within walking distance of each other. There is easy access to downtown Munich as well as to the science site (Forschungszentrum) by subway (U-Bahn).

Scientific Organizing Committee:

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- * Magda Arnaboldi (ESO, Germany, Chair)
 - * Annette Ferguson (IFA, Edinburgh)
 - * Laura Ferrarese (HIA, Victoria)
 - * Lynne Hillenbrand (Caltech, Pasadena)
 - * Mike Irwin (IoA, Cambridge)
 - * Andrew Lawrence (IFA, Edinburgh)
 - * Bruno Leibundgut (ESO, Germany)
 - * Duccio Macchetto (StScI, Baltimore)
 - * Yannick Mellier (IAP, Paris)
 - * Thomas Szeifert (ESO, Chile)

Local Organizing Committee:

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- * Magda Arnaboldi
 - * Oscar A. Gonzalez
 - * Michael Hilker
 - * Valentin D. Ivanov
 - * Steffen Mieske
 - * Monika Petr-Gotzens
 - * Marina Rejkuba (Chair)
 - * Joerg Retzlaff
 - * Christina Stoffer

Important Dates

- * First announcement: January 2012
- * Registration opens: March 2012
- * Registration and abstract submission deadline: 2 July, 2012
The workshop capacity is limited to 100 participants, and in case this number is exceeded the registrations will be put on a waiting list. The participants will be informed about the accepted registrations in August.
- * Announcement of selected talks and participation confirmation: 15 August, 2012
- * Accommodation reservation and registration payment: 10 September, 2012
- * Workshop dates: 15-18 October, 2012

Registration Fee

There will be a registration fee of 150 Euro (50 Euro for students).
The registration fee includes tea/coffee breaks, the welcome reception and the workshop dinner.

Contact Address

LOC: surveys2012 (atmark) eso.org