

ESO Fellowship Programme 2000/2001

The European Southern Observatory (ESO) awards up to six postdoctoral fellowships tenable at the ESO Headquarters, located in Garching near Munich and up to seven postdoctoral fellowships tenable at ESO's Astronomy Centre in Santiago, Chile. The ESO fellowship programme offers a unique opportunity for young scientists to pursue their research programmes while learning and participating in the process of observational astronomy with state-of-the-art facilities.

ESO facilities include the Very Large Telescope (VLT) Observatory on Cerro Paranal, the La Silla Observatory and the astronomical centres in Garching and Santiago. The VLT consists of four 8-m-diameter telescopes. Normal science operations are now conducted on the first two and will start on the third on 1 April 2001. At La Silla, ESO operates five optical telescopes with apertures in the range from 1.5 m to 3.6 m, the 15 m SEST millimetre radio telescope and smaller instruments.

The main areas of activity at the Headquarters and in Chile are:

- research in observational and theoretical astrophysics;
- managing and constructing the VLT;
- developing the interferometer and adaptive optics for the VLT;
- operating the La Silla Observatory;
- development of instruments for current ESO telescopes and for the VLT;
- calibration, analysis, management and archiving of data from the current ESO telescopes;
- developing the Atacama Large Millimetre Array (ALMA);
- fostering co-operation in astronomy and astrophysics within Europe and Chile.

The main scientific interest of ESO Faculty astronomers in Garching and in Chile are given in the ESO web site <http://www.eso.org/science/facultymembers.html>.

Both the ESO Headquarters and the Astronomy Centre in Santiago offer extensive computing facilities, libraries and other infrastructure for research support.

There are ample opportunities for scientific collaborations. The ESO Headquarters host the Space Telescope European Co-ordinating Facility (ST-ECF), are situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the Max-Planck Institutes for Astrophysics and for Extraterrestrial Physics and are only a few kilometres away from the Observatory of the Ludwig-Maximilian University. In Chile, ESO fellows have the opportunity to collaborate with the rapidly expanding Chilean astronomical community in a growing partnership between ESO and the host country's academic community.

Fellows in Garching spend up to 25% of their time on the support or development activities mentioned above, in addition to personal research. They can select functional activities in one of the following areas: instrumentation, user support, archive, VLT, ALMA or science operations at the Paranal Observatory. Fellowships in Garching are granted for one year with the expectation of a second year and exceptionally a third year.

In Chile, the fellowships are granted for one year with the expectation of a second and third year. During the first two years, the fellows select to be assigned to either a Paranal operation group or a La Silla telescope team. They support the visiting astronomers at a level of 50% of their time, with 80 nights per year at either the Paranal or La Silla Observatory and 35 days per year at the Santiago Office. During the third year, two options are provided. The fellows may be hosted by a Chilean institution and will thus be eligible to propose for Chilean observing time on all telescopes in Chile; they will not have any functional work. The second option is to spend the third year in Garching where the fellows will then spend 25% of their time on the support of functional activities.

The basic monthly salary will be not less than DM 4,970 to which is added an expatriation allowance of 9–12% in Garching, if applicable, and up to 35% in Chile. The remuneration in Chile will be adjusted according to the cost of living differential between Santiago de Chile and Munich. An annual allocation of DM 12,000 (somewhat higher for a duty station in Chile) for research travel is also available. Additional information on employment conditions/benefits can be found on the ESO web site <http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/adm/pers/fellows.html>

Candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process in January 2001. Fellowships begin between April and October of the year in which they are awarded. Selected fellows can join ESO only after having completed their doctorate.

Applications must be made on the ESO Fellowship Application Form (postscript) which can be obtained from the ESO web site <http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/adm/pers/forms/>. The applicant should arrange for three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with his/her scientific work to be sent directly to ESO. Applications and the three letters must reach ESO by October 15, 2000.

Completed applications should be addressed to:

European Southern Observatory, Fellowship Programme
Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D-85748 Garching bei München, Germany
vacancy@eso.org

Contact person: Angelika Beller – E-mail: abeller@eso.org – Tel: 0049-89-3200-6553, Fax: 0049-89-3200-649

PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS

International Staff (April – June 2000)

ARRIVALS

EUROPE

BAARS, Jacob (NL), Systems Engineer, as of 1.11.99
GAILLARD, Boris (F), Coopérant
KEMP, Robert (UK), Application Software Designer and Developer
PIERFEDERICI, Francesco (I) Data Archive and Pipeline Software Specialist
SIEBENMORGEN, Ralf (D), Infrared Instrumentation Scientist
TAN, Gie Han (NL), Project Engineer

CHILE

AGEORGES, Nancy (F), Operation Staff Astronomer
CURRAN, Stephen (UK), Associate (SEST)

DEPARTURES

EUROPE

BELETIC, James (USA), Senior Astronomer
CABILLIC, Armelle (F), Programme Manager

KIM, Young-Soo (Korean), Associate
LOMBARDI, Marco (I), Student
PRIMAS, Francesca (I), Fellow
RAUCH, Michael (D), User Support Astronomer
TOLSTOY, Elizabeth (NL), Fellow

CHILE

LUNDQVIST, Göran (S), System Analyst

Local Staff (April – May 2000)

ARRIVALS

ACEVEDO, Maria Teresa, Telescope Instrument Operator, Paranal
BAEZA, Silvia, Software Engineer Developer, La Silla
CASTILLO, Monica, Telescope Instrument Operator, La Silla
COSTA, Jaime, Electrical Engineer, Paranal
SALDIAS, Christian, System Administrator, Vitacura

DEPARTURES

KAISER, Cristian, Personnel Assistant, Vitacura

TRANSFERS

KASTINEN, Ismo, Software Engineer Developer, La Silla
PAVEZ, Marcus, System Administrator, La Silla