

IAU WG on Photography To Meet at ESO

The IAU Working Group on Photography (of IAU Commission 9) will meet at the ESO Headquarters on October 29 and 30, 1990.

The topics will include: manufacture and behaviour of astronomical emulsions, photographic techniques (sensitometry, hypersensitization, calibration, conservation), applications (measurements and reduction, numerical techniques) and photography/CCD interaction. Although CCDs have taken over in many areas, photography is still of great importance for certain astronomical applications at many observatories, in particular in large-field survey-type work.

The scientific programme is being established by J.-L. Heudier and J. Schumann; they can be reached at Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, B.P. 139, F-06003 Nice Cedex, France (EARN-email: WGAP@FRONI51). The local arrangements are made by the ESO Information Service (address on the last page).

STOP PRESS (June 6, 1990)

At Last, We Know Where La Silla Is!

Recent geodetic VLBI observations, the first involving South America, using the SEST telescope on La Silla, have successfully produced an exceedingly accurate position for the La Silla telescope. The observations performed by the Onsala/SEST group in collaboration with the NASA Crustal Dynamics project using SEST in VLBI mode with telescopes at Westford, Mass., Mojavi, Calif., and Onsala, Sweden, give a position solution for SEST as:

$$\begin{aligned} X &= 1,838,239.55 \text{ m} \\ Y &= -5,258,700.06 \text{ m} \\ Z &= -3,100,588.47 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

in a geocentric coordinate system defined by the major VLBI telescopes. The distances between these telescopes have been determined with formal uncertainties, depending on the baseline length, between 6 and 23 mm, e.g. the distance from the Onsala 20-m telescope to SEST is:

$$10,459,732,492.4 \text{ mm } (\pm 23.1 \text{ mm}).$$

Note that this is only a first result and further processing, involving the full observing network of 8 telescopes, is in progress. R. BOOTH, Onsala

Vacancies

INFRARED ASTRONOMER

Education: University degree in Astronomy or Physics, preferably a doctorate.

Experience and knowledge: A solid background in observational infrared astronomy and a good working knowledge of infrared instrumentation.

Very good knowledge of English and a working knowledge of Spanish.

Assignment: As an international staff member in the La Silla Astronomy Department, the successful applicant will be expected to spend about half of his/her time doing original research and half doing support duties. The support duties include being Head of the IR Operations Group, introducing visiting astronomers to the use of IR instrumentation, and supervising the programmes of IR service observing. As Head of the IR Operations Group, he/she will supervise changeover routines of instrumentation, maintenance of instruments and detectors, development programmes in hardware and software, and, in general, will be responsible for monitoring the quality of the IR facilities offered by the Observatory.

Facilities: The observing facilities on La Silla comprise 14 telescopes including the SEST 15-m submillimetre antenna and the new 3.5-m NTT. Infrared facilities are available at 4 telescopes and include IR photometers, an intermediate-dispersion spectrograph (IRSPEC), and an imaging array camera (IRAC).

The research computing facilities on La Silla comprise a HP 1000 system with full image-processing capabilities (IHAP), a VAX 11/750 and several SUN workstations for image processing (MIDAS).

General information: Close to 20 astronomers, including staff members, fellows and students, work on La Silla. The research projects currently pursued by the astronomical staff at La Silla include low mass star formation (Herbig-Haro objects, molecular outflows, jets), OH/IR stars, symbiotic stars and proto-planetary nebulae, coronal activity in late-type stars, supernovae, chemistry of molecular clouds, formation of massive stars and starburst activity, dynamics of galaxies, active nuclei, QSOs and gravitational lensing, and observational cosmology.

Duty station: Astronomical Observatory, La Silla (600 km north of Santiago, Chile).

Starting date: As soon as possible.

Applications should be submitted to ESO Personnel Services at ESO-Garching before **July 31, 1990**.

FELLOWSHIP AT LA SILLA

A position is available at La Silla for a post-doctoral fellow with an interest in observational astronomy. Experience with IR spectroscopy, or optical photometry will be an advantage. ESO fellowships are granted for a period of one year, normally renewed for a second year and exceptionally renewed for a third and final year.

The successful applicant will be expected to spend not more than 50% of his/her time in support-related activities and the rest of the time doing scientific research.

Applicants normally should have a doctorate awarded in recent years. Applications should be submitted to ESO not later than July 31, 1990. Applicants will be notified by September 1990. The ESO Fellowship Application Form should be used and be accompanied by a list of publications. In addition, three letters of recommendation should be obtained from persons familiar with the scientific work of the applicant. These letters should reach ESO not later than July 31, 1990.

Enquiries, requests for application forms and applications should be addressed to:

European Southern Observatory
Fellowship Programme
Karl-Schwarzschild-Straße 2
D-8046 GARCHING b. München
Federal Republic of Germany

New ESO Preprints

(March–May 1990)

Scientific Preprints

697. L. Greggio and A. Renzini: Clues on the Hot Star Content and the UV Output of Elliptical Galaxies. *The Astrophysical Journal*.
698. Ph. Prugniel and F. Combes: Dynamical Friction in Pairs of Elliptical Galaxies. Ph. Prugniel and E. Davoust: Tidal Distortions in Pairs of Early-type Galaxies. Contributions to IAU Colloquium 124 "Paired and Interacting Galaxies", Tucson, December 4–7, 1989.
699. E. Gosset and J.-M. Vreux: On the Possible Biperiodicity of WR 40. *Astronomy and Astrophysics*.
700. L. Pasquini, E. Brocato and R. Pallavicini: Chromospheric Activity of Evolved Late-type Stars.
701. S. Cristiani et al.: Observations of Variable Quasar Candidates. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*.
702. A.V. Sweigart, L. Greggio and A. Renzini: The Development of the Red-Giant Branch: II. Astrophysical Properties. *The Astrophysical Journal*.

703. E. Gosset et al.: Analysis of the Light Variations of the Wolf-Rayet Star WR 16. *Astronomy and Astrophysics Suppl. Ser.*
704. M. Morris and Bo Reipurth: The Optical Form of the Bipolar Preplanetary Nebula IRAS 09371+1212. *Publ. Astron. Soc. Pacific.*

Technical Preprints

13. A.F.M. Moorwood and B. Delabre: Infrared Spectrometer/Imager for the ESO VLT. To appear in Proceedings of SPIE Conference 1235 "Instrumentation in Astronomy VII".
14. J.M. Beckers et al.: The VLT Interferometer. I. Proposed Implementation. Paper presented at the SPIE Conference 1236 on "Advanced Technology Optical Telescopes IV" on February 12-16, 1990 in Tucson AZ, USA.
15. J.M. Beckers: The VLT Interferometer. II. Factors Affecting On-Axis Operation. Paper presented at the SPIE Conference 1236 on "Advanced Technology Optical Telescopes IV" on February 12-16 in Tucson AZ, USA.
16. J.M. Beckers: The VLT Interferometer. III. Factors Affecting Wide Field-of-View Operation. Paper presented at the SPIE Conference 1236 on "Advanced Technology Optical Telescopes IV" on February 12-16 in Tucson AZ, USA.
17. J.M. Beckers: The VLT Interferometer. IV. The Utility of Partial Adaptive Optics. Paper presented at the SPIE Conference 1236 on "Advanced Technology Optical Telescopes IV" on February 12-16, 1990 in Tucson AZ, USA.
18. M. Faucherre et al.: Michelson Versus Fizeau Type Beam Combination: Is There a Difference? To be published in the SPIE Proceedings vol. 1237 on "Amplitude and Intensity Spatial Interferometry", ed. J.B. Breckinridge.
19. F. Merkle et al.: First Diffraction-Limited Astronomical Images with Adaptive Optics. To be published in the SPIE Proceedings No. 1236.
20. P. Kern et al.: Adaptive Optics Prototype System for Infrared Astronomy. I: System Description. To be published in the SPIE Proceedings No. 1271.
21. F. Merkle et al.: Adaptive Optics Prototype System for IR Astronomy. II: First Observing Results. To be published in the SPIE Proceedings No. 1271.
22. P. Dierickx et al.: ESO VLT II: Optical Specifications and Performance of Large Optics. To be published in SPIE Proceedings No. 1237.
23. P. Dierickx et al.: The 8.2 Metre Primary Mirrors of the VLT. To be published in the SPIE Proceedings No. 1271.
24. R.N. Wilson, F. Franza and L. Noethe: Active Optics IV: Set-up and Performance of the Optics of the ESO New Technology Telescope (NTT) in the Observatory. Submitted for publication in *Journal of Modern Optics*.

STAFF MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

Europe:

BALLESTER, Pascal (F), Science Applications Programmer
 BERGER, Christian (D), Student
 BRYNNEL, Joar (S), Electronics Engineer/Technician
 COMIN, Mauro (I), System Programmer
 GEHRING, Georg (D), Student
 GOUIFFES, Christian (F), Fellow
 GROESSL, Martin (A), VLT Project Engineer
 HES, Roland (NL), Student
 HILL, Susan (GB), Archive Operator
 HUBIN, Norbert (F), Optical Engineer
 KOCH, Franz (D), Structural Analysis Engineer
 NIEUWENKAMP, Christine (NL), Adm. Asst. Purchasing
 PIOTTO, Giampaolo (I), Associate
 ZEILINGER, Werner (A), Fellow

Chile:

DELLA VALLE, Massimo (I), Fellow
 EKMAN, Sture (S), Electro-Mechanical Engineer
 HEINAUT-ROUELLE, M.-C. (B), Associate
 WILD, Wolfgang (D), Fellow (SEST)

Departures

Europe:

GOSSET, Eric (B), Fellow
 POSTEMA, Hans (NL), Mechanical Design Engineer
 WENDORFF, Charles (DK), Associate
 WOLTJER, Lodewijk (NL), Associate

Chile:

BAUDET, Loic (F), Optical Technician
 GOUIFFES, Christian (F), Associate

Professor J.H. Oort at 90



Jan Hendrik Oort, one of the founding fathers of ESO, celebrated his 90th birthday on April 28, 1990. He was the President of the ESO Council from 1964 to 1965 and some of his many services to ESO and the world-wide astronomical community have been outlined in the articles by Adriaan Blaauw in the recent Messenger issues.

Professor Oort continues to take an interest in ESO affairs and was delighted to see the first results from the New Technology Telescope.

The photo shows Professor Oort flanked by Professors Blaauw (right) and Woltjer (left) and Professor van der Laan at the reception held in Leiden in honour of the famous Dutch astronomer on this festive occasion (Photo: Loek Zuyderduin).