



Postdoctoral Position in Dynamical Structure of Galaxies at the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA) in Heidelberg (Reference number 09-12)

The Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA) in Heidelberg, Germany, is seeking an ambitious, highly qualified candidate to fill a postdoctoral research position in Dr. Glenn van de Ven's research group.

Research areas of particular interest are: internal structure and dynamics of nearby galaxies, including the Milky Way and Local Group; gravitational lensing, also in combination with kinematics; dark matter in galaxies, from central black holes to outer dark halos; nuclear clusters, spirals and rings in galaxies; stellar dynamics and stellar populations in globular clusters. Both theorists and observers are encouraged to apply, especially if they are interested in applying theoretical models to (photometric and kinematic) observations.

At present, the 'Galaxies and Cosmology' department at MPIA is pursuing a wide range of astrophysical research, encompassing large observing programs, instrument development and theoretical modelling. MPIA researchers have privileged access to a high-performance supercomputer and to various observational facilities, including the twin 8.4 meter Large Binocular Telescope in Arizona, the 2.2 m MPG telescope on La Silla, and the Calar Alto observatory. In addition, MPIA researchers have access to all ESO facilities and profit from close cooperation with the Center for Astronomy at the University of Heidelberg. The MPIA is a major partner in the PanSTARRS1 Survey and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS). For more information please see www.mpia.de.

Applicants should have a PhD in astronomy, astrophysics, or a closely related field. The appointment will be for an initial period of two years with a likely extension to a total of three years. The MPIA offers a stimulating work environment, and provides funds for computing, publications, travel, etc.

Candidates should send a single pdf file containing their application materials, including curriculum vitae and a brief statement of research interests to the (e-mail) address below. Also, candidates must arrange for three letters of reference to be sent separately to the same (e-mail) address. Please note that receipt of letters of reference will not be acknowledged. Complete applications received by December 15, 2009, will receive full consideration. Later applications will be considered until the position is filled. The starting date is expected to be no later than the Fall of 2010, but earlier dates are possible. For further inquiries, please contact Glenn van de Ven (glenn@mpia.de).

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The Max Planck Society is an equal opportunity employer. Applications from women, disabled people and minority groups are particularly welcome. The MPIA supports its employees in their search for suitable child care.

