PhD Positions in Astrophysics

International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) for Astronomy and Astrophysics at the Universities of Bonn and Cologne

The call for applications is open until November 15, 2013. Encouraged to apply are students with an M.Sc. degree or diploma (including a written thesis) in Physics or closely related subjects. Solid astrophysical background is highly favored.

More details on the IMPRS program and the admission requirements and process can be found at the IMPRS website:

www.mpifr.de/imprs | www.youtube.com/user/imprstube

General

The International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) for Astronomy and Astrophysics is funded by the German Max Planck Society and is operated by the Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie (MPIfR) in collaboration with the Argelander-Institut für Astronomie (AIA) of the University of Bonn and the I. Physikalisches Institut at the University of Cologne. It offers three-year financed PhD courses. The official language is English. Currently it hosts roughly 40 students from 17 countries around the world.

Fields of Research

The IMPRS for Astronomy and Astrophysics offers a broad spectrum of topics in observational and theoretical, galactic and extragalactic, astrophysics, observational and theoretical cosmology, fundamental physics with astronomical tools and instrumentation. Some examples:


Besides the expertise in radio astronomy of the MPIfR the IMPRS for Astronomy and Astrophysics provides the opportunity for scientific activity in almost all fields of contemporary astrophysics, techniques and energy bands.

Training

The IMPRS for Astronomy and Astrophysics offers a competitive PhD program on the basis of a tightly structured curriculum, including:

- advanced lectures on fundamental astrophysical fields
- soft skill seminars (e.g. presentation skills, time management, scientific reading)
- weekly students seminars
- annual “students only” workshop where they develop team activities aside from their main research interests
- colloquia at the three hosting institutions given by experts from all over the globe
- university courses
- thesis committees monitor the progress of each student and provide scientific feedback to the PhD course.

Furthermore, the students are strongly encouraged and funded to travel to international schools, conferences and the best observing facilities around the world. They are exposed to the most advanced techniques and methods using state-of-the-art earth-bound or space observatories, such as the unique 100-m radio telescope in Effelsberg and the most advanced instruments in millimeter and sub-millimeter astronomy as well as high-energy band observatories.

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