

Advert

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
School of Physics & Astronomy

UK ALMA Regional Centre
Postdoctoral Research Associate – 1 (Ref: EPS/10597)
Postdoctoral Research Associate – 2 (Ref: EPS/10598)

Salary Range £28,983 - £35,646 per annum

The School of Physics and Astronomy invites applications for two positions of Research Associate in Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics. The positions have been awarded as part of the STFC support for the UK ALMA Regional Centre.

This is an exciting opportunity for suitably qualified people to play leading roles in establishing the UK ALMA Regional Support Centre (ARC) as a major focus for ALMA-related science in the United Kingdom. The ARC node, based in the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics (JBCA) on the University of Manchester campus, is offering two research positions commencing 1st October 2010. The node, which employs four associated staff members and hosts an ESO Co-Fund Fellow, was established in October 2009 as an integral part of an international support network for European users of the ALMA (<http://www.alma.ac.uk>).

ALMA has already produced images with the first three of its 60+ antennas. During the next few years it will progress from early science to full operations, opening a unique window on the cool Universe, from nearby planet formation to Milky-Way precursors at high redshift.

Successful candidates will spend about 75% of their time as part of the team enhancing and extending support for astronomers planning ALMA observations, acquiring and processing data. This will involve face to face support, the passing on of mm-wave interferometry skills, and the testing and enhancement of software and imaging tools, with the exact balance of activities to be agreed after appointment. Each successful candidate will be expected to engage in their own independent research program focused on ALMA science. Astronomical research at JBCA (<http://www.jb.man.ac.uk>) covers a wide range of areas with many extensive programmes planned to utilize ALMA. Support personnel for new facilities frequently become involved with a number of projects in order to utilize their technical expertise, thus building their collaborative network. As a member of the UK community, ARC staff will have access to both ESO and UK facilities including ALMA, JCMT, e-MERLIN, and SCUBA2.

Informal inquiries may be made to

Dr Gary Fuller (g.fuller@manchester.ac.uk, direct tel: +44(0) 161 3063653) or

Dr Tom Muxlow (t.muxlow@manchester.ac.uk, direct tel: +44(0) 161 2754108) or

Dr Anita Richards (a.m.s.richards@manchester.ac.uk, direct tel: +44(0) 161 2754243)

Application forms and further particulars are available from our website www.manchester.ac.uk/jobs

You can request a hard copy of the details from The Directorate of Human Resources, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, Tel: +44 (0) 161 275 8837 email eps-hr@manchester.ac.uk

Please quote reference **EPS/10597 for Position 1 and EPS/10598 for Position 2**

Closing date: **3rd September 2010**

The University will actively foster a culture of inclusion and diversity and will seek to achieve true equality of opportunity for all members of its community.

Quote ref: EPS/10597 & EPS/10598
Internal ref: Mr Phillip Ashcroft / Ms Esther Hess

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

**UK ALMA Regional Centre
Postdoctoral Research Associate – 1 (Ref: EPS/10597)
Postdoctoral Research Associate – 2 (Ref: EPS/10598)**

- 1 The University invites applications for the above positions which are tenable for 2 years commencing 1st October 2010, with the possibility of extension of up to 3 years.
- 2 Salary will be within the range £28,983 - £35,646 per annum according to relevant experience and qualifications.
- 3 Informal inquiries may be made to
Dr. Gary Fuller (g.fuller@manchester.ac.uk) +44(0) 161 3063653
Dr. Tom Muxlow (t.muxlow@manchester.ac.uk) +44(0) 161 2754108
Dr. Anita Richards (a.m.s.richards@manchester.ac.uk) +44(0) 161 2754243
- 4 Candidates should enclose a full CV and research plan, and indicate for which post you are applying.
- 5 Applications should be returned by **3rd September 2010** to:

The Directorate of Human Resources
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences
The University of Manchester
PO Box 88
Sackville Street
Manchester
M60 1QD

Or by email (quoting the reference number in the subject line) to: eps-hr@manchester.ac.uk

- 6 The University does not acknowledge applications or contact all unsuccessful applicants. If you have not been contacted within 4 weeks of the closing date you should assume that, on this occasion, your application has not been successful. We would, however, like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in The University of Manchester

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE DIRECTORATE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Job Description

Job Title: Research Associate – 1
Responsible to: Dr Tom Muxlow
Organisation Unit: School of Physics and Astronomy
Date: June 2010

Overall Purpose of the Job

The holder of this position will be expected to play a leading role in ARC science and development activities. Preference will be given to exceptional candidates at the second post-doctoral level. The appointee will be expected to spend about 75% of their time as part of the team supporting astronomers planning ALMA observations, acquiring and processing data. This will involve face to face support, the passing on of mm-wave interferometry skills, and the testing and enhancement of software and imaging tools, with the exact balance of activities to be agreed after appointment. The successful candidate will be expected to engage in their own independent research program focused on ALMA science, in collaboration with researchers locally or elsewhere as relevant.

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience

The person appointed will:

- Have a PhD in Astrophysics or in a closely related subject area
- Have a strong research record
- An extensive publication record.
- Be capable of playing a leading role in developing ALMA-related science in UK.
- Have observational expertise preferably in the field of mm and sub-mm astronomy with interferometry experience.
- Have a strong interest in (sub-)mm-wave astronomy.
- Be familiar with observational data analysis using modern software.
- Be enthusiastic to support users or prospective users of ALMA

Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Use of the Python software language
- Experience with a radio interferometry data reduction package
- Experience in planning observing proposals
- Strong communication skills

The University of Manchester

Job Description

Job Title: Research Associate – 2
Responsible to: Dr Tom Muxlow
Organisation Unit: School of Physics and Astronomy
Date: June 2010

Overall Purpose of the Job

The appointee will be expected to spend about 75% of their time as part of the team supporting astronomers planning ALMA observations, acquiring and processing data. This will involve face to face support, the passing on of mm-wave interferometry skills, and the testing and enhancement of software and imaging tools, with the exact balance of activities to be agreed after appointment. The successful candidate will be expected to engage in their own independent research program focused on ALMA science, in collaboration with researchers locally or elsewhere as relevant.

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience

The person appointed will:

- Have, or be about to obtain, a PhD in Astrophysics or in a closely related subject area
- Have a good research record.
- Possess observational expertise, preferably in the field of mm and sub-mm astronomy or interferometry experience.
- Have a strong interest in (sub-)mm-wave astronomy.
- Be familiar with observational data analysis using modern software.
- Be enthusiastic to support users or prospective users of ALMA

Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Use of the Python software language
- Experience with a radio interferometry data reduction package
- Experience in planning observing proposals
- Strong communication skills

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the University of Manchester can be found at <http://www.manchester.ac.uk>

Enclosures

Application form
Equal opportunities monitoring form
Guidance notes for applicants