



NORDIC OPTICAL TELESCOPE

Research Studentships

The Nordic Optical Telescope (NOT) at La Palma, Spain, invites applications for Research Studentships with starting dates from mid-2009 or later.

NOT is a modern 2.6-m telescope with state-of-the-art optical and near-IR instruments. Our staff of ~20 astronomers, engineers, and students, and informal, hands-on mode of operation offer attractive training opportunities for young Nordic scientists and engineers in observational astrophysics.

The NOT Research Studentship programme offers support for a limited number of MSc or PhD students who wish to profit from these opportunities. The stipend covers their living expenses on La Palma for periods of typically a year; in return, they spend about 25% of their time contributing to the operation or development of NOT. Both astronomy and engineering students are welcome, and thesis projects may be either astronomical, including observing projects with NOT, or may concern developments in optics, detectors, electronics, or software. A local staff member is assigned to each student to monitor his/her progress and provide scientific guidance as needed.

Applicants should normally (see <http://www.not.iac.es/general/studentships/> for further details):

1. Be enrolled in a PhD or MSc programme in astronomy or a related technical discipline at a recognised university or similar academic institution. Preference is given to PhD students and applicants from the Nordic countries.
2. Have a strong interest in observational astrophysics and/or astronomical instrumentation.
3. Be capable and willing to work during night- as well as daytime, occasionally also on weekends or public holidays, at an altitude of 2400 metres above sea level, and to take up residence on La Palma for the duration of the Studentship.
4. Have a good knowledge of English, the working language at NOT. Knowledge of Spanish is an advantage. A valid driving license is normally required.

Comprehensive information on NOT, its instrumentation, and the research interests of the staff is provided at <http://www.not.iac.es>. Our Sea Level Office (SLO) in the town of Santa Cruz, an hour's drive from the observatory, provides offices, computing facilities, library, etc., adjacent to the staff and students of the Isaac Newton Telescopes. NOT students may also rent rooms at a favourable rate in the NOT apartment, within walking distance from the SLO.

The application deadline is **Friday, March 6, 2009**. Applications received later will only be considered if not all positions are filled.

Applications should contain a brief CV, state the candidate's home University, research interests, supervisor, and proposed starting date, and be sent by e-mail to both of the following addresses:

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