

Postdoctoral positions available at FINCA

Finnish Centre for Astronomy with ESO (FINCA) is a national research institute in Finland, with headquarters in University of Turku. It takes care of Finnish co-operation with European Southern Observatory (ESO); practises and co-ordinates high quality astronomical research, and technological development work related to ESO; participates in researcher training; and promotes co-operation of Finnish universities in astronomy. For more information, see <http://www.utu.fi/en/units/finca/>

Applications are invited for postdoctoral researcher positions at FINCA to work on ESO-related activities. The work place can be any of the participating universities of FINCA (Aalto, Helsinki, Oulu or Turku). The start of employment is negotiable, but earliest on 1 September 2017 and latest on 31 December 2017. The appointments are for two years, with a trial period of four months and with the possibility of an extension to third year.

Postdocs are expected to pursue their own independent research program, in one of FINCA's main research areas; participate in teaching; and supervise undergraduate/graduate students. FINCA's research areas (including those of the participating universities; see links at the FINCA web page) cover a large range in contemporary astronomy: observational cosmology; active galaxies; galaxy formation and evolution; structure, kinematics, stellar populations and star formation of nearby galaxies; supernovae and their use as probes of their host galaxies; binary stars; stellar magnetic activity; interstellar medium; and star formation.

The positions require PhD in astronomy or a closely related subject. Experience in observational astronomy with large international facilities is essential and experience with ESO an advantage. The applicant must have completed her/his doctorate before September 1, 2017, and no more than four years before the application deadline. Depending on qualifications, the gross salary is between 3300€ and 3700€ per month.

The deadline for applications is December 1, 2016. Applications are submitted electronically, via the link (ID 2873) in the University of Turku recruitment pages <http://www.utu.fi/careers/> Applications must include as attachments: CV, list of publications and ESO-related research plan describing research interests and future plans (max. 4 pages). Letters of recommendation from at least two referees familiar with the applicant's work, and in case of current PhD students, the supervisor's statement about the PhD schedule, must be sent to: finca@utu.fi by the application deadline. Selection of the candidates will be based on research accomplishments, promise of future achievement, and relevance to FINCA research. We encourage applications from candidates irrespective of nationality, gender, or background.