

Leiden Observatory invites applications for PhD positions

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We are pleased to announce a general call for 5-10 PhD positions with an application deadline of December 17, 2010. Application forms and instructions are available at <http://www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/phd/>

Applicants are requested to upload a curriculum vitae, a list of all university courses taken and transcripts of grades obtained, brief statements of research interests and experience, and the contact

information for at least two referees.

Leiden Observatory, founded in 1633, is the oldest university astronomy department in the world. With about 25 faculty, over 30 postdoctoral associates and over 40 PhD students it is the largest astronomy department in the Netherlands. Leiden is a charming university town with international flair. Most Leiden researchers have an international background. English is the common language.

The four-year PhD program consists mostly of research under the supervision of one or more faculty members. Positions are available in all the research areas in which the Observatory is active. These include cosmology, galaxy formation and evolution, interstellar matter and star formation, stars and planetary systems, computational astrophysics, high energy astrophysics, laboratory astrophysics, astrochemistry, and instrumentation. More information about research at Leiden Observatory can

be found at <http://www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/research/>

During their thesis, Leiden PhD students are paid as civil servants, which means that they earn competitive salaries (the current gross salary, including allowances, increases from about EUR 28,000 in year 1 to about EUR 36,000 in year 4) and are eligible for both social security and retirement benefits. PhD positions are funded for four years.

The successful candidates must have a MSc degree (or equivalent) by the starting date. The starting dates are negotiable.

Complete applications received by December 17, 2010 will receive full consideration.

The positions are open to candidates from all countries. The research will be carried out in the framework of the Netherlands Research School for Astronomy (NOVA). More information about the PhD program at Leiden Observatory can be found at <http://www.strw.leidenuniv.nl/phd/>

Email Inquiries: phdapplications@strw.leidenuniv.nl