



Staff Observer

ISAAC NEWTON GROUP OF TELESCOPES LA PALMA, CANARY ISLANDS

Ref: LSR02_20

Closing date: 12:00 WET 16-11-2020

As part of its preparation for the WEAVE commissioning and scientific operations, the ING invites internal applications for the new post of Staff Observer. The Staff Observer will join the Astronomy group and be primarily devoted to carrying out observations with the WEAVE instrument on the WHT.

This opening, available immediately, represents an opportunity for individuals with university-level astronomy training, with or without a PhD degree, who have a strong interest and experience in observational astronomy, and who are seeking involvement in the commissioning and scientific operation of a major facility instrument.

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE POST

- To carry out night-time observations of the WEAVE queue.
- To assist with day-time astronomy-group tasks.
- To contribute to astronomical research activities at the observatory.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The main responsibilities of this post are:

- To carry out night-time observations with WEAVE, for the WEAVE survey, for open-time programmes and during technical time, following the agreed observing plans and protocols (~ 50% of the total staff hours available for this post).
- To assist in activities of the astronomy group such as instrument quality-control, support of other instruments, assisting with planning the next night, scripting and public relations (30%).
- To contribute to the research impact of ING and/or the WEAVE surveys, ideally through WEAVE-related projects. Examples: providing data-analysis support to individual WEAVE science teams; or carrying out a research project with another instrument, but in support of a specific WEAVE survey. (20%)

A Job Description is available on demand.

SHORTLISTING CRITERIA

Qualifications (essential):

- University degree in astronomy (minimum); masters' degree in astronomy (preferred).

Experience (essential):

- Observational experience in a professional observatory (minimum: one year).

Technical competencies:

- (Essential) Astronomical optical spectroscopy with digital detectors, including data processing.
- (Essential) Linux operating system; the python scripting language; digital collaboration tools, e.g., Confluence.
- (Valued) Astronomical optics. Software for astronomical applications.

Valued transversal competencies:

- Working as part of a team; communicating effectively with day and night crews.
- Personal work: planning and organisation.
- Flexibility, eg for changes from night shifts to day-time tasks.
- Good command of English and Spanish.
- Interest in WEAVE-based research.

CONTRACTUAL INFORMATION

This will be a permanent, full-time appointment at Grade C on the local pay scale, and raised to C+ to compensate for night and weekend work. The appointment is subject to a probation period of 6 months.

APPLICATIONS

To apply for this post, use the standard ING external job application form, and fill in:

- Box 1: personal details.
- Box 10 on page 4: why are you interested in the post, and indicate the relevance of your qualifications and experience to the job.
- You may optionally fill in box 9 (career history) if you believe the information strengthens your candidacy.

Applications must be sent to recruit@ing.iac.es

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information is available from Juanjo Herrera (juanjo@ing.iac.es), ☎+34 922 425 413.

The ING is fully committed to equality of opportunity in the workplace.

The closing date for applications is 12:00 (WET) on the 16th November 2020.