Job Announcement

The University of Potsdam was founded in 1991 and has firmly established itself within the scientific landscape and developed into an outstanding economic factor and growth engine for the region. The University of Potsdam excels in acquiring third-party funds, has received multiple teaching awards, has a very service-oriented administration, and has been honored several times for its family-friendly culture. About 21,000 students and 3,000 employees study and work at three campuses – Am Neuen Palais, Griebnitzsee and Golm – at one of Germany’s most scenic institutions of higher education.

The Faculty of Science, Institute of Physics and Astronomy, Theoretical Astroparticle Physics at the University of Potsdam invites applications for the following position limited to three years, which will be filled as soon as possible:

Academic Staff Member
PhD student
ID no. 403/2023

The successful candidate will work 26.8 hours per week (67% of a full-time contract). The position is classified within remuneration group 13 of the collective wage agreement among the German states (TV-L). The fixed term of employment is in accordance with Section 2 subsection 1 of the German Act on Limited Scientific Contracts (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz or WissZeitVG).

Your Field of Work:
The astroparticle-physics theory group at the University of Potsdam, currently consisting of four postdocs and three PhD students, is particularly interested in the physics of cosmic accelerators (such as supernova remnants), gamma-ray astronomy, and plasma physics. We offer excellent research opportunities in astroparticle physics through close cooperation with many research groups and major institutions in this field in Germany and abroad.

The Institute for Physics & Astronomy at the University of Potsdam supports a broad range of research in observational and theoretical astrophysics. It has close links with the neighboring Leibniz-Institute für Astrophysik (AIP) and Albert Einstein Institute in addition to DESY (Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron), which is one of the world’s leading research centers for particle and astroparticle physics. The Professor responsible for the astroparticle-physics theory group, Prof. Martin Pohl holds a joint position at University of Potsdam and DESY.

The position will be associated with a project involving massively parallel Particle-in-cell simulations of electron acceleration at collisionless shocks that is funded by DFG and embedded in a cooperation with research groups in Cracow and in Tokyo.

The Scope of Your Responsibilities:
• Research within a project work (in the context of the massively parallel Particle-in-cell simulations of electron acceleration at collisionless shocks)
• Completion of a doctorate
• Technical assistance at the Chair for Theoretical Astroparticle Physics

Further scientific qualification (doctorate) is possible. At least one-third of working hours is available for in-depth scientific work.
Your Qualifications:
- M.Sc. in physics, astronomy, or equivalent
- Experience with modeling of particle acceleration and wave-particle interactions
- Experience with numerical and analytical studies of plasma in space
- Good command of English

We are also looking for the following competences:
- Numerical modeling of astrophysical plasma
- Kinetic studies of wave-particle interactions
- Particle acceleration processes

What We Offer:
As a university, we combine the developmental strength of a teaching and research institution with the attractive working conditions of the public sector. The University of Potsdam is a reliable employer that supports its employees with a variety of offers and benefits:
- Develop yourself and your professional as well as interdisciplinary competencies in various continuing education and networking opportunities offered by the University of Potsdam.
- All locations have good transport connections. They can receive a monthly subsidy for the public transport job ticket and use campus bicycles.
- Benefit from a company pension plan, a special annual payment and asset-building services.
- Take advantage of the diverse offers from occupational health management as well as university sports.
- To improve work-life balance, the University of Potsdam offers its employees flexible working hours and proportional home office hours. You have 30 vacation days per year and are also exempt from work on December 24 and 31. Our service for families can advise you on issues relating to the reconciliation of work and family life.

You can find more information about working at the University of Potsdam at https://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/arbeiten-an-der-up/arbeitgeberin/uebersicht

For more information about this position, please contact Mr. Prof. Martin Pohl (marpohl@uni-potsdam.de).

Your Application
Please send us your application in electronic form a CV, a 2-page statement of current and future research interests, a list of publications, a link to the M.Sc. thesis, and the names and contact info of at least 2 references by the deadline of November 1, 2023. Provide the ID no. 403/2023, by email to ines.tietgen@uni-potsdam.de.

The University of Potsdam values the diversity of its community and pursues the goals of equal opportunity regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. Applications from abroad and from persons with an immigrant background are expressly encouraged. The university strives for a balanced gender ratio in all employment groups; in areas where women are underrepresented, women are given preference in case of equal suitability (Section 7 paragraph 4 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act). People with disabilities are given preferential consideration in cases of equal qualifications. In aptitude tests and selection interviews, individual disadvantage compensations are granted that are appropriate to their disability. If a person with a disability would like to make use of individual disadvantage compensation, please state this in the application letter.

Potsdam, 11.08.2023