



UvA/VU Physics & Astronomy Visiting Professorships program

Background

Since 2016, the UvA Institute of Physics (IoP), the UvA Anton Pannekoek Institute (API), and the VU Department of Physics and Astronomy (DPA) coordinate a successful program for Visiting Professors.

Our targets are excellent academics with an outstanding research track record, who are well recognized experts in one of the disciplines in which the three institutes are active. Our Visiting Professors act as an inspiring role model to our staff and student population and strengthen the Physics & Astronomy community in Amsterdam by means of joint colloquia and seminars, dedicated topical courses for bachelor, master, and PhD students, and eventually also engage in outreach events, such as public talks or other science popularization events.

Key information

- Target dates for visit: anytime during the academic year, excluding July and August.
- Funding: up to EUR5k/month per visitor (depending on funds).
- What is covered: housing + travel + subsistence.
- Length of visit: between 1 and 3 months (depending on funds).
- Application procedure: 1 A4 with motivation, embedding, and budget estimate.

Description of the program

Our targets are excellent academics with an outstanding research track record, who are well recognized experts in one of the disciplines in which our three institutes (the UvA Institute of Physics, the UvA Anton Pannekoek Institute, and the VU Department of Physics and Astronomy) are active. They should be able to act as an inspiring role model to our student population. The duration of these visits can vary between one and three months. The staff

members of each of the three participating institutes are in charge of proposing potential visitors.

With this program, we aim to focus on academics who are willing and available to join the activities aiming to strengthen the Physics & Astronomy community in Amsterdam, such as joint colloquia and seminars, as well as engage in interactions with the bachelor and master students, through informal talks or maybe even with dedicated short Master courses. It would be a plus if our visitors are good science communicators and could engage in outreach events, such as public talks or other high-profile science popularization events.

These visits should take place during the teaching part of the academic year (e.g. not during July or August) to maximise the chances of interaction with our student population. We welcome specially nominations for outstanding female and minority scientists.

The program will be able to fund up to €5k/month for each of the selected visitors. We will, with the help of the respective secretariats, take care of the logistics of their visit, including accommodation in Amsterdam, travel to the Netherlands, family health insurance, and (international) school and childcare when required.

Each nomination needs to be accompanied by a short motivation statement, a description of the planned embedding within the institutes, plans for teaching and other related activities, and a budget estimate.

List of previous beneficiaries

- Prof Jeroen van den Brink (ITW Dresden)
- Prof Vitor Cardoso (IST Lisbon)
- Prof Itai Cohen (Cornell)
- Prof Rohini Godbole (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)
- Prof Zakya Kafafi (Lehigh University)
- Prof Eiichiro Komatsu (Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics Garching)
- Prof Shrinivas (Shri) Kulkarni (Caltech)
- Prof Alexander Kusenko (UCLA and Kavli Institute Tokyo)
- Prof Doug Lin (University of California at Santa Cruz)
- Prof Frederic Merkt (ETH Zurich)
- Prof Simona Murgia (University of California at Irvine)
- Prof Felix Ritort (Universitat de Barcelona)
- Prof Timothy Tait (University of California at Irvine)
- Prof Anne Davaille (CNRS Research Director, Orsay)
- Prof Neil Ribe (Orsay)
- Prof Ray Jayawardhana (Cornell University)
- Prof Giuseppe Mussardo (SISSA)
- Prof Micha Berkooz (Weizmann Institute)