bers the VLT Programme Scientist will follow the following criteria:

- Strong scientific interest for the specific capabilities of the instrument
- Technical experience with the type of data being produced by the instrument
- Wide coverage of the main scientific areas that the instrument is designed to satisfy

To all activities of the SV Team will also be invited to participate:

- The Instrument PI and Co-PI, or one person designated by each of them
- The ESO Instrument Scientist
- The ESO and Consortium Instrument Pipeline experts

4.2 Duties of the SV Team

The duties of the SV Team include:

- Development and pre-selection of the SV projects
- Preparation of the OBs, and their delivery to Paranal Observatory prior to the instrument dry runs
- Maintenance of SV WEB pages, describing the SV plan well in advance of the SV Observations, and including informative lists of SV data as they become public
- Real time assessment of the SV data at Paranal Observatory (maximum 2 SV Team members)
- Reduction of the SV data
- Delivery through the SV WEB and the ESO Archive of the raw, calibration, and calibrated data
- On users request provide information on the data
- The SV Team can have access to the Commissioning data prior to SV observations.

5. Scientific Exploitation of the SV Data

The scientific exploitation of the SV data can start as soon as the data are publicly released.

The formation of groups and teams for the scientific exploitation of SV data is left to the initiative of the individuals.

SV Team members are encouraged to promptly use the data and to stimulate the participation of scientists from the community.

Authors are kindly asked to send to ESO (Office of the VLT Programme Scientist) at submission time copy of any paper that may result from the use of SV data, along with a concise technical report on the use of the data, pipeline, etc.

News from Santiago

The spectacular fringes obtained at VLTI, as well as the intensive ALMA preparatory work in Chile, have suddenly brought the "world of interferometry" to full attention of the astronomical community in Chile.

Astronomers not yet familiar with this type of observational technique have started to realise the originality, the strength and the astrophysical potential of aperture synthesis observations, both at radio and at optical/IR wavelengths.

On the side of the pioneers who have been developing the techniques of interferometry for almost 30 years now, it is time to advertise widely their tools and enrol young researchers in this fascinating adventure. On the side of the astronomical community at large, the fantastic improvement in spatial resolution brought by interferometry is very attractive and opens new avenues for solving astrophysical problems.

Therefore, the demand has been growing in Chile for some basic and practical information about interferometry: the principles, the instrumental solutions to be adopted according to the wavelength domain, and also the effective achievements of today's interferometric instruments.

The idea of organising an "Interferometry Week" at ESO/Santiago was born almost two years ago and became a reality on 2002 January 14–16. After the traditional welcome (D. Alloin) and introductory remarks (M. Tarenghi), we could attend very well prepared and enlightening lectures on the basics of aperture synthesis (P. Lena), on interferometry in the radio domain and soon with ALMA (S. Guilloteau), on the science performed with millimetre interferometers (A. Dutrey), on optical/IR interferometry (A. Glindemann), on phase closure (M. Wittkowski), on the VLTI and its instrumentation (M. Schoeller) and, finally, on the science we can dream of with optical/IR interferometers (A. Richichi).

A large audience attended the tutorial, including a noticeable group of students from ESO/Chile, PUC and Universidad de Chile. At the request of the attendees, and thanks to the generous attention of the speakers, all presentations have been made available on a webpage and can be retrieved from: http://www.sc.eso.org/santiago/science/interf2002.html

Once more, we thank the lecturers and the attendees for a very interesting scientific meeting which, for some of us, has opened the door to new horizons in astronomical data and results. Many thanks also to the administration staff and to the team of the Office for Science in Santiago, in particular A. Lagarini, who have contributed in the organisation and the success of this "Interferometry Week".

We hope that this first contact with interferometry (for some of the attendees) will be the start of exciting work and beautiful discoveries. *D. ALLOIN*

ESO Studentship Programme

The European Southern Observatory research student programme aims at providing the opportunities and the facilities to enhance the post-graduate programmes of ESO member-state universities by bringing young scientists into close contact with the instruments, activities, and people at one of the world's foremost observatories. For more information about ESO's astronomical research activities please see the ESO Science Activities webpage at URL http://www.eso.org/science/index.html .

Students in the programme work on an advanced research degree under the formal tutelage of their home university and department, but come to either Garching or Vitacura-Santiago for a stay of up to two years to conduct part of their studies under the supervision of an ESO staff astronomer. Candidates and their national supervisors should agree on a research project together with the potential ESO local supervisor. This research programme should be described in the application and the name of the ESO local supervisor should also be mentioned. It is highly recommended that the applicants start their Ph.D. studies at their home institute before continuing their Ph.D work and developing observational expertise at ESO.

The ESO studentship programme comprises about 14 positions, so that each year a total of up to 7 new studentships are available either at the ESO Headquarters in Garching or in Chile at the Vitacura Quarters. These positions are open to students enrolled in a Ph.D programme in the ESO member states and exceptionally at a university outside the ESO member states.

The closing date for applications is June 15, 2002.

Please apply by using the ESO Studentship application form available on-line at URL http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/adm/pers/vacant/studentship2002.html .

European Southern Observatory
Studentship Programme
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