

The new ESO Web can be reached via ESO's standard URL: <http://www.eso.org/>, which brings the user to the Public portal. The Science Users and Intranet navigation buttons bring users to the Science and Intranet portals respectively; these pages can also be bookmarked as start pages for the ESO Web.

In the current implementation the ESO Web still consists of many single web pages that use a common style and navigation. In the near future it is planned to move to a database-based Content Management System. This will substantially improve maintainability of the site and will serve all web users with the most current information and a common Look and Feel.



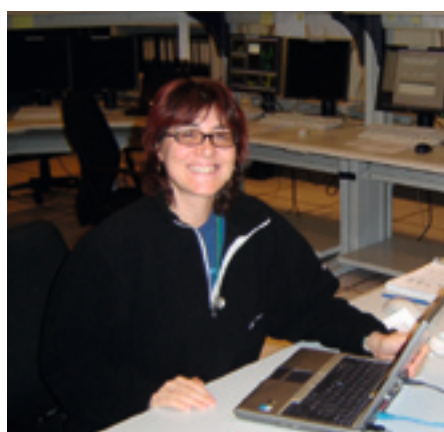
Figure 2: The new ESO Public Image Archive. The page shows the overview of galaxy images currently available.

Fellows at ESO

Maria Messineo

I have been an ESO fellow since September 2004. I am interested in studying the morphology and evolution of the Milky Way. Although it is well established that our Galaxy is a barred spiral galaxy, the properties of each Galactic component – Disc, Halo, Bulge, central Bar – are still poorly constrained. It is difficult to properly map the large-scale morphology of the Milky Way, mainly because we observe it from inside the Disc and because light absorption from interstellar dust strongly hampers an unbiased view of its stellar content.

Like Archimedes, I grew up on the ancient and wonderful island of Sicily. I started to study astronomy at the University of Bologna where I graduated in the spring of the 1997 with a Master's Thesis on Galactic globular stellar clusters. I did my Ph.D. research in Leiden studying the distribution of stars in the inner regions of our Galaxy as a direct probe of the gravitational potential.



Maria Messineo

During my Ph.D. I went observing with the IRAM 30-m telescope in Spain several times as well as with the Heinrich Hertz Telescope in Arizona, with the ESO 3.6-m and the CTIO 4-m telescopes in Chile. I always enjoyed my time at the telescopes very much, and so it was obvious that when I joined ESO I would perform my functional work as a sup-

port astronomer on Paranal. At Paranal I mostly work with the UT4-Yepun telescope and operate both of the infrared detectors: NACO and SINFONI. I really enjoy observing and supporting visiting astronomers during their runs, and each time I learn a lot, both scientifically and technically, and receive valuable feedback concerning my research.

Currently I am investigating the spatial distribution of young stellar clusters in the Milky Way using SINFONI data. The aim of this project is to better understand the current star formation in our Galaxy, as well as the locations of spiral arms. From next July I will continue to work on this topic at the Rochester Institute of Technology (USA): more science to carry out and a new world to discover!

Laura Parker

I arrived at ESO in late 2005 after completing my Ph.D. work at the University of Waterloo in Canada. I am generally interested in all questions related to the formation and evolution of galaxies, as well as understanding the fundamental cosmological parameters which govern the evolution of the Universe. My research focusses on the link between luminous galaxies and the dark-matter halos in which they reside. I study the amount and distribution of dark matter using weak gravitational lensing, and to date my work has focussed mainly on galaxy and galaxy group sized structures.

Since arriving in Garching I have continued my work in weak lensing – which is a leading technique for understanding both

galaxy evolution and fundamental cosmology. I am enjoying working in such a stimulating scientific atmosphere, particularly the many seminars and the lively discussions at morning coffee. The diversity of research carried out by ESO researchers is something hard to match anywhere else. For my functional work I joined the ESO survey team which oversees the planning and execution of public surveys (for the VST and VISTA). My research makes use of large imaging surveys so this project is a perfect fit to my interests.

I will be sad to leave Garching (and the biergartens) behind but I am excited about moving onto the next chapter in my career. I will join the faculty at McMaster University as an assistant professor in late 2007.



Laura Parker

Personnel Movements

Arrivals (1 April–30 June 2007)

Europe	
Arbogast, Dina (F)	Secretary/Assistant
Austin-May, Samantha (GB)	Assistant Head of Personnel Department
Cikic, Zoran (F)	Senior Contract Officer
Clare, Richard (GB)	Physicist
Guerlet, Thibaut (F)	Student
Haimerl, Andreas (D)	Electronics Technician
Hussain, Gaitee (GB)	Astronomer
Laaksonen, Milla (FIN)	Administrative Assistant
Lombardi, Gianluca (I)	Student
Mazzoleni, Ruben (I)	Applied Scientist
Ngoumou Yewondo, Judith Savina (D)	Student
Penker, Thomas (D)	Assistant Facility Management
Tanaka, Masayuki (J)	Fellow
Testi, Leonardo (I)	ALMA European Project Scientist
Chile	
Ederoclite, Alessandro (I)	Operations Astronomer
Elliott, David (GB)	Student
Haguenauer, Pierre (F)	VLTI System Engineer

Departures (1 April–30 June 2007)

Europe	
Bedin, Luigi (I)	Fellow
Foellmi, Cedric (CH)	Fellow
Huster, Gotthard (D)	Mechanical Engineer
Sadibekova, Tatyana (UZ)	Student
Vasisht, Gautam (IND)	Software Engineer
Chile	
Aguilera, Hugo Freddy (RCH)	Accounting Officer
Eschwey, Jörg (D)	Civil Engineer
Fischman, Nicolas (RCH)	Head of Contract and Procurement
Francois, Patrick (RCH)	Operations Astronomer
Garcia, Enrique (RCH)	Electronics Technician
Hartung, Markus (A)	Fellow
Jehin, Emmanuel (B)	Operations Astronomer
Mella, Juan Alberto (RCH)	Safety Engineer
Shen, Tzu Chiang (CN)	Software Engineer
Soto, Ruben (RCH)	Software Engineer
Vannier, Martin (F)	Fellow
Zagal, Juan (RCH)	Software Engineer