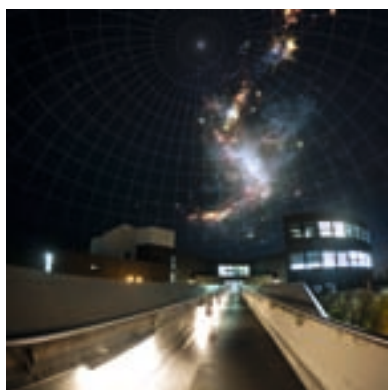
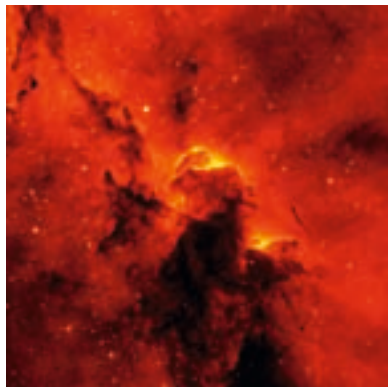


The NEON Observing Schools

The 7th NEON Observing School, La Palma Observatories, La Palma, Spain, 23 June – 5 July 2008

The 3rd NEON Archive Observing School, ESO Headquarters, Garching, Germany, 27 August – 6 September 2008



The Network of European Observatories in the North (NEON) is pleased to announce the NEON Observing Schools for 2008. The schools are sponsored by the European Community, Marie Curie Actions and supported by OPTICON and by the European Astronomical Society (EAS).

The purpose of the summer schools is to provide the opportunity for young researchers to gain practical experience in observational techniques, data reduction and analysis and the use of virtual observatory tools. Students will carry out small research projects, centred on selected astrophysical topics, in small groups under the supervision of experienced astronomers. These practical exercises will be complemented by lectures on general observational techniques and archival research for both ground- and space-based astronomy.

Figure 1 (upper): IC 1396B Nebula observed by the 2.5-m Isaac Newton Telescope. Nick Wright (UCL) and the IPHAS collaboration.

Figure 2 (lower): Montage of the NGC 1313 Galaxy over the ESO HQ in Garching.

The observing school at the telescopes on La Palma will largely concentrate on the skills required to execute an observing programme (imaging and spectroscopy) and instrumental developments. The Archive Observing School at ESO will concentrate on the quality appraisal of existing data and the research possible with large databases, combining ground and space data; emphasis will be on data-reduction techniques and the new tools now available within the Virtual Observatory.

The schools are principally open to astronomy PhD students and postdocs who are nationals of a Member State or an Associate State of the European Union. Applications from other European countries will also be considered.

The application deadline for both schools is 31 March 2008.

For details, see
<http://www.eso.org/neon-2008>
 and
<http://www.iap.fr/eas/neonNew.html>

Personnel Movements

Arrivals (1 October–30 December 2007)

Europe

La Penna, Paolo (IT)	System Engineer/Physicist
Gonzalez, Juan Carlos (ES)	System Engineer
Jakob, Gerd (DE)	Engineer Cryogenic Systems
Burrows, Andrew (GB)	Systems Administrator
Vasisht, Gautam (IN)	Physicist
Bierwirth, Thomas (DE)	Software Engineer
Cayrel, Marc (FR)	Opto-Mechanical Engineer
Ziegler, Bodo (DE)	User Support Astronomer
Ramsay, Suzanne (GB)	Instrument Scientist
Battaglia, Giuseppina (IT)	Fellow
Neumayer, Nadine (DE)	Fellow
Bourtembourg, Reynald (FR)	Software Engineer
Nittel, Frank (DE)	Draftsman
Brogaard, Karsten (DK)	Student
Misgeld, Ingo (DE)	Student
Santangelo, Gina (IT)	Student

Chile

Hills, Richard (GB)	Alma Engineer/Scientist
Saldias, Antonio (CL)	Safety Officer
Segovia, Alex (CL)	Software Engineer
Urrutia, Josefina (CL)	Software Engineer
Pilquinio, Jorge (CL)	Electrical Engineer
Beltran, Juan (CL)	Laser Operator
Fox, Andrew (GB)	Fellow
De Ugarte Postigo, Antonio (ES)	Fellow

Departures (1 October–30 December 2007)

Europe

Ngoumou Yewondo, Judith Savina (DE)	Student
Korkiakoski, Visa (FI)	Student
Pedicelli, Silvia (IT)	Student
Kapadia, Amit (USA)	Student

Chile

Sepulveda, Jorge (CL)	Software Engineer
Alarcon, Hector (CL)	Telescope Instruments Operator
Roa, Luis (CL)	Mechanical Technician
Barrios, Emilio (CL)	Scientific Instruments Operator
Geissler, Kerstin (DE)	Student
Noterdaeme, Pasquier (BE)	Student
Vehoff, Stefan (DE)	Student