ESO, the European Southern Observatory, was created in 1962 to ... establish and operate an astronomical observatory in the southern hemisphere. equipped with powerful instruments, with the aim of furthering and organizing collaboration in astronomy . . . It is supported by eight countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. It operates the La Silla observatory in the Atacama desert, 600 km north of Santiago de Chile, at 2,400 m altitude, where fourteen optical telescopes with diameters up to 3.6 m and a 15-m submillimetre radio telescope (SEST) are now in operation. The 3.5-m New Technology Telescope (NTT) became operational in 1990, and a giant telescope (VLT=Very Large Telescope), consisting of four 8-m telescopes (equivalent aperture = 16 m) is under construction. It will be erected on Paranal, a 2,600 m high mountain in northern Chile, approximately 130 km south of the city of Antofagasta. Eight hundred scientists make proposals each year for the use of the telescopes at La Silla. The ESO Headquarters are located in Garching, near Munich, Germany. It is the scientific-technical and administrative centre of ESO where technical development programmes are carried out to provide the La Silla observatory with the most advanced instruments. There are also extensive facilities which enable the scientists to analyze their data. In Europe ESO employs about 150 international Staff members, Fellows and Associates; at La Silla about 40 and, in addition, 150 local Staff members.

The ESO MESSENGER is published four times a year: normally in March, June, September and December. ESO also publishes Conference Proceedings, Preprints, Technical Notes and other material connected to its activities. Press Releases inform the media about particular events. For further information, contact the ESO Information Service at the following address:

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FELLOWSHIP ON LA SILLA

A post-doctoral fellowship is offered on La Silla starting in the first trimester of 1993. This position is opened to a young astronomer with an interest in observational work. Experience in extragalactic astronomy, and in particular in the field of observational cosmology, will be considered a strong advantage. The ESO fellowships are granted for a period of one year, normally renewed for a second and exceptionally for a third year.

The successful applicant will be required to spend 50 % of his/her time doing support activities and 50 % of the time on research.

Applicants normally should have a doctorate awarded in recent years. Applications should be submitted to ESO not later than 31 October 1992. Applicants will be notified by November 1992. The successful applicant is to start work not later than May 1993. The ESO Fellowship Application Form should be used and be accompanied by a list of publications. In addition, three letters of recommendation should be obtained from persons familiar with the scientific work of the applicant. These letters should reach ESO not later than 31 October 1992.

The research interests of the members of the staff in the Astronomy Support Department include low-mass star formation, formation and evolution of massive stars and starbursts, post-AGB stellar evolution and planetary nebulae, supernovae, active nuclei, high redshift galaxies and galaxy clusters. Staff members and senior fellows act as co-supervisors for students of European universities that spend up to 2 years on La Silla working towords a doctoral dissertation.

Enquiries, requests for application forms and applications should be addressed to:

European Southern Observatory Fellowship Programme Karl-Schwarzschild-Straße 2 D-8046 Garching b. München, Germany

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