

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

–Associate Professor, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) –

NAOJ invites applications for an associate professor position as follows:

1. Job Title: Associate Professor, one position
2. Division and Location: NAOJ ALMA Project, Santiago, Chile
Frequent visits to the high-altitude site (5,000 m above sea level) are expected.
* In some cases, the location for the first month of employment may be Mitaka, Japan.
(Scope of possible changes) Location designated by NINS / NAOJ
3. Area of Expertise: Radio Astronomy

4. Job Description:

The National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) has been playing a leading role at the forefront of global astronomical research. ALMA is the largest (sub)mm-wave on-ground telescope and has been producing ground-breaking science since it became operative in 2011. In order to keep its high scientific productivity, ALMA will be upgraded towards addressing the updated scientific goals identified in the ALMA Development Roadmap. The highest priority item in the Development Roadmap is the Wideband Sensitivity Upgrade, which aims to enable observations across expanded frequency ranges through significant upgrades to the receivers of ALMA.

We invite applications for an Associate Professor who is based in Chile and contributes mainly to the development and commissioning of the ALMA2030 Wideband Sensitivity Upgrade (WSU) and subsequent Extension of Observation Capabilities (EOC), as well as the onsite array operation in Chile. Specifically, their major responsibilities are as follows:

- (1) The candidate is expected to be appointed as an international staff member of Joint ALMA Observatory (JAO) at the earliest possible stage and will be assigned the following duties (65%):
 - To contribute to ALMA's daily operations as a member of the Science Operations Team or the Engineering Team, and
 - To contribute to the development and commissioning in WSU conducted in Chile, in collaboration with local Chilean staff and personnel dispatched by Executives.It is desirable that within a few years, the candidate will be able to take on a leadership role managing a team of 10 or more people in WSU and subsequent EOC activities.
- (2) To share experiences gained in Chile with the entire ALMA project, including Japan, and to foster smooth communication within the project as well as the development of young and technical staff responsible for telescope operations (10%).
- (3) To conduct original research in radio astronomy and make use of the experience to broader activities such as education and public outreach (25%).

(Scope of possible changes) Research and teaching activities designated by NINS / NAOJ

To fulfill these responsibilities, they are required to have expertise in radio astronomy and radio interferometry. They are required to have good communication skills and good English proficiency to in the international environment. Skills in project management and/or experience in coordination of international collaboration are desirable and will be considered an asset.

5. Terms of Appointment:

The successful candidate is expected to start the job as early as reasonably possible after accepting the job offer. The term of employment will continue up to the end of the Japanese academic year, in which the post-holder reaches NAOJ's mandatory retirement age of 65. The hired candidate will undergo a six-month probationary period upon commencement of employment.

6. Qualification

- (1) Minimum Educational Requirement: Ph.D. or equivalent in astronomy or related fields;
- (2) To have deep expertise in radio astronomy and radio interferometry, and experience in telescope operations;
- (3) To have good communication skills and good English proficiency to discuss and collaborate in international teams;
- (4) Strong interpersonal communication skills and ability to work in a team with diverse cultural background will be considered important assets for this position.

* Frequent visit to high site (5,000m above sea level) is expected

7. Required Application Materials (To be prepared in English. Any other language will not be accepted)

- (1) Cover letter;
- (2) Curriculum vitae;
- (3) Publications list (Separate refereed and non-refereed papers. SPIE can be included in refereed papers);
- (4) Summary of your past activities related to this position;
- (5) Your plans to fulfill the responsibilities and achieve the aspirations associated with this position;
- (6) Your address (e-mail and phone) for prompt contact and the email address of your current supervisor or line manager; and
- (7) Two or more reference letters. Please ask your references to upload their letters directly using the URL indicated in 9.(1) before the application deadline. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the letters are submitted before the application deadline.

8. Application Deadline: 2026-10-23, 12:00 (noon) (Japan Standard Time)

9. Application Instructions

9.1. Applicants are required to apply via the NAOJ Nextcloud on the web.

(1) Please access the following URL for registration:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/atvMKDNeDF>

(2) After you submit the registration form, you will receive an email showing the URLs for (a) uploading your application documents, and (b) for your reference letters.

(3) Please ask your references to upload their letters via the URL shown in (2)(b).

(4) Please upload the application documents (from 7. (1) through (6) above) via the URL (2)(a). These files must be in PDF format (max 50MB each, 100MB in total, at most 10 files).

9.2. Contacts:

(1) If you have any questions related to the job description, contact;

E-mail address: s.iguchi_AT_nao.ac.jp (replace _AT_ with @)

Satoru Iguchi, Director of NAOJ ALMA, NAOJ

Subject of e-mail: "Question on JD of Associate Professor in NAOJ ALMA Project"

(2) If you have any questions related to the other items, contact;

E-mail address: job02-associateprof_AT_nao.ac.jp (replace _AT_ with @)

Subject of e-mail: "Question on Application for Assoc. Professor in NAOJ ALMA Project"

10. Notes for application:

(1) Candidates selected in the final short list may be interviewed by the selection committee either via the internet or face-to-face. The expense for the interview will not be covered by NAOJ.

(2) If the selection committee determines that there are no qualified candidates for this position, this announcement may be closed without any selections.

11. Working Conditions:

(1) Work Type and Work Hours: The Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied (standard work hours: 38.75 hrs/week, from 8:30 to 17:15 with an hour intermission).

(2) Holidays: Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays at the place of work, Paid leave (Annual paid leave, Refreshment leave, Bereavement leave, Home leave etc.)

(3) Social Insurance: MEXT Mutual Aid Association (health insurance), Employees' Pension Insurance, Employment Insurance, Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance

(4) Remuneration:

- Salary: Annual salary shall be determined based on professional knowledge, skills, required education, and job experiences as per the NINS regulations (NINS, or the National Institutes of Natural Sciences, is an upper-level organization that manages NAOJ). Payments will be made monthly in 12 equal installments.
- Allowance for working in Japan: Commuting allowance (up to 150,000 yen per month) will be paid when the requirements based on the NINS regulations are met.
- Allowances for working in Chile: Foreign service allowance and other allowances will be paid to employees who meet the conditions outlined in the NINS regulations. Especially,

foreign service allowance will be paid if the candidate moves their principal place of living to Chile from outside of the country to start this job. An amount equivalent to the year-end allowance and diligence allowance will be included in the annual salary.

- Salary Increment: Once a year in accordance with the performance review
- Retirement Allowance: Provided
- Travel and relocation: Eligible employees will be provided with a relocation travel package to NAOJ, subject to the travel regulations of NINS (details must be arranged with the administration office).

12. Miscellaneous:

- (1) The NAOJ Advisory Committee for Research and Management will make the final decision for the appointment.
- (2) This position is subject to the NINS Employee Regulations. The annual salary schedule indicated in Table (2) of the Research-Education Employee Base Annual Salary shall be applied to this position.
- (3) Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity: Abiding by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, NAOJ is committed to realizing a society with gender equality. If two candidates are deemed equal in their performance evaluation, NAOJ will take positive action to employ women. For details, see <https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/genderequality/en/>
- (4) NINS implements the program to support staff members (young researchers) who received educational loans (scholarships) from the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) and are now repaying them.
For details, see <https://www.nins.jp/about/folder7/dairihenkan.html>
- (5) If you have taken a leave(s) for maternity, childcare, and family care, please indicate it in your curriculum vitae. We will take it into account when assessing your performance.
- (6) Smoking is prohibited on the premises excluding designated outdoor smoking areas.
- (7) Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process and for contacting you with necessary notices in connection with the selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information except those submitted by the successful candidate.

13. Recruiting Institution:

Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS),
National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ)