

## **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: SOLAR-C Project, Mitaka, Tokyo  
(Scope of possible changes) Location designated by NINS / NAOJ
3. Area of Expertise: Space Instrumentation, Solar Physics and related fields
4. Job Description:

The National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) has been playing a key role in the science satellite missions of JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency). NAOJ has the SOLAR-C Project Office (hereafter, the SOLAR-C Project), which contributes to the development of the science payload EUVST (the EUV High-throughput Spectroscopic Telescope) on the SOLAR-C spacecraft of JAXA/ISAS (Institute of Space and Astronautical Science of JAXA), aiming to explore key propositions in space science of how the plasma universe is created and evolves, and how the Sun influences the Earth, other interplanetary objects, and the heliosphere. SOLAR-C can trace and grasp dynamic solar plasma phenomena in the chromosphere through the corona by advanced capabilities; they are seamless coverage of the entire temperature range and about ten times higher spatial and temporal resolution than ever. It enables us to study the most fundamental question in solar physics: how does the interplay between solar plasmas and magnetic fields drive solar activity? The SOLAR-C Project will contribute to the design and development of overall mission instruments, particularly the telescope section, in collaboration with JAXA and several US and European institutes. The overseas institutes plan to provide the critical components of the spectrograph section. The SOLAR-C Project is responsible for providing high-quality spectroscopic imaging data to the science community under the leadership of ISAS/JAXA.

SOLAR-C has been selected by ISAS/JAXA as the unique candidate for the 4th Medium-Class science satellite mission. The target launch date is in the late 2020s. We invite applications for an associate professor position at the NAOJ SOLAR-C Project. A successful candidate for this position will serve as one of the team leaders of the NAOJ SOLAR-C Project, and will be responsible for assisting the project manager in advancing the project, contributing to developing the mission instrument EUVST in collaboration with the NAOJ Solar Science Observatory, with the support of the Advanced Technology Center, aiming to strengthen solar physics activities at NAOJ. Regarding the primary contributions to the development activities, the successful candidate is expected to lead the functional and performance verifications of the electrical interfaces of the EUVST subsystems by collaborating with contractors, international partners, and the project members, including JAXA. The desired candidate will not only contribute to instrument development but will also be expected to generate outstanding scientific results through their own research, contribute to the planning of future missions in the field of solar physics, and contribute to the development of young researchers and engineers, including graduate students affiliated with NAOJ.

(Scope of possible changes) Research and Teaching Activities designated by NINS / NAOJ

## 5. Terms of Appointment:

The candidate should be able to start as soon as possible after the job offer has been accepted.

The term of the contract will continue up to the end of the Japanese academic year in which the faculty member reaches NAOJ's mandatory retirement age of 65.

Probation period: 6 months

## 6. Qualifications

(1) Minimum Educational Requirement: Ph.D. or equivalent; and

(2) Other Requirement: To have achieved internationally recognized research or space engineering results in the field of expertise, and also have experience as a lead or key member of a large-scale astronomical project.

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

(1) A cover letter;

(2) A curriculum vitae;

(3) Publications list (Separate refereed and non-refereed papers. SPIE and COSPAR can be included in refereed papers);

(4) A summary of your past research activities including international collaborations;

(5) Your commitment and plan to fulfill the duties (including your research plan as needed);

(6) Your address (e-mail and phone) for prompt contact and the email address of your current supervisor or line manager, and

(7) Three or more reference letters; All reference letters must be prepared by faculty/staff with tenured positions. Reference letters from multiple countries are preferred. Please ask your references to upload their letters directly using the URL indicated in 9.1. before the closing date for application. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the letters are submitted before the closing date for application.

## 8. Application Deadline: 2026-06-04, 12:00 (noon) (Japan Standard Time)

## 9. Application Instructions:

### 9.1. How to Submit an Application:

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

(1) Please access the following URL for registration:

<https://forms.office.com/r/T0rknhV5CC>

(2) After you submit the registration form, you will receive an email showing the URLs for

(a) uploading your application documents and

(b) 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 50 MB each, 100 MB in total, at most 10 files).

### 9.2. Contacts:

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

E-mail: hirohisa.hara\_AT\_ao.ac.jp (replace \_AT\_ with @)

Prof. Hara, Hirohisa

*Director of the SOLAR-C Project, NAOJ*

Subject of e-mail: "Question on JD of Associate Professor of the NAOJ SOLAR-C Project"

(2) If you have any questions related to the job application system or other items, contact,

E-mail address: job02-associateprof\_AT\_ao.ac.jp (replace \_AT\_ with @)

Subject of e-mail: "Question on Associate Professor of the NAOJ SOLAR-C Project"

#### 10. Notes for application:

(1) Candidates selected in the final shortlist may be interviewed by the selection committee either in person or online. NAOJ will not cover any expenses associated with the interview.

(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 and Sundays, National Holidays, New Year holidays (December 29th-January 3rd)

(3) Paid leave: Annual paid leave, Refreshment leave, Summer closure, Bereavement leave, etc.

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

(5) 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.

Allowances: Dependent allowance, residential allowance, commutation allowance, and other allowances will be paid to employees who meet the conditions outlined in the NINS regulations. 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) 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.

(2) 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.

If you have taken a leave(s) for maternity, childcare, and family care, please indicate it in your curriculum vitae. We will consider it when assessing your performance.

For details, see <https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/gender-equality/en/>

(3) 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>

(4) Smoking is prohibited on the premises excluding designated outdoor smoking areas.

(5) 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)