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*D.D. n. 27/2011*

Subject: selection procedure by qualifications and possible interview for the assignment of one two-year research grant renewable for one year in the framework of the ERC Starting Grant Project CosmoIGM called “Physical properties of the Intergalactic Medium”

CUP: C91J10000300006

INAF-NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASTROPHYSICS  
ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY OF TRIESTE

***The Director***

- ***In accordance with*** Law n. 240 dated 30 December 2010 of which art. 22 in particular\_\_\_\_\_
- ***In accordance with*** the transitional directive for the assignment of research grants according to law n. 240 dated 30 December 2010, approved by INAF Administrative Council on 16 February 2011
- ***In accordance with*** the authorization n. prot. 1760 dated 3 March 2011 of the Director of INAF Department of Research Structures which grants 2 three-year research grants, each worth € 35,000 gross per year inclusive of burdens to be charged to INAF
- ***Ascertained*** that financial coverage for a total of € 70,000 (seventy thousand) derives from EU funds of ERC Starting Grant CosmoIGM within CRA n. 2.05.38 on chap. 1.05.08 entitled “Fellowships and Research Grants” of 2011 INAF budget, expenditure centre n. 1.04 (Trieste);

***DECREES***

Art. 1 – Research Project

Open call for the selection procedure on the basis of candidates’ qualifications, possibly integrated by an interview, for the assignment of one research grant of the duration of two years entitled: “Physical Properties of the Intergalactic Medium”. The research project consists in the study of high- and low- redshift Intergalactic Medium, and in IGM numerical modelling using cosmological hydrodynamical simulations. The successful candidate will work in close collaboration with dr. Matteo Viel and with other members of the Cosmology group of the Astronomical Observatory of Trieste in the framework of the project CosmoIGM recently granted by the EU. Research includes comparison with spectroscopic data at high, low and medium resolutions (UVES, SDSS, and X-Shooter), with attention also to future instruments being developed with the participation of teams of Trieste Observatory (i.e. ESPRESSO and CODEX). The successful candidate may possibly join also BOSS (SDSS-III) collaboration to investigate IGM as Large Scale



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Structure tracer at high redshift. Further questions on science can be sent to Matteo Viel (e-mail: viel@oats.inaf.it).

#### Art. 2 – Requirements for participation

Requirements for participation to the selection are the following: degree in Astronomy or in Physics either “specialistica” or “magistralis” or issued according to the previous Italian University regulations and a proved curriculum of studies and scientific activities. Candidates with PhD will receive preferential consideration. Foreign candidates with academic qualifications which will be judged equivalent by the Selection Committee are accepted. The duration of the degree course in Astronomy or Physics at foreign Universities must be of at least four years.

A good level of knowledge of the English language is required.

#### Art. 3 – Application

Applications are to be written on unstamped paper using the attached application form format (Attachment 1), with the addition of the date and signature of the candidate. Applications, to which the requested documentation must be attached, can be submitted either by hand to the Astronomical Observatory of Trieste or sent by express courier or by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. Applications are to be addressed to the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste, address: Via Tiepolo n. 11, 34143 Trieste, Italy, by 30 June 2011.

Applications without the applicant’s signature will be excluded from the selection.

Candidates who will not apply following the application form format of Attachment 1 will be excluded from the selection

The applicant’s personal self certification, written according to the attached form format (Attachment 2), must be dated and signed by the applicant. A copy of a valid identity document must be attached to the self-certification form. In using self-certification the candidate should list the submitted qualifications with details which may enable the Observatory’s Administrative Office to verify all personal declarations. As an alternative to self-certification, the candidate can submit either the original qualification documents or certified true copies of the qualification documents.

#### Art. 4 – Incompatibility

The grant cannot be held contemporarily with attendance at academic courses, “laurea specialistica” academic courses and “laurea magistrale” academic courses, and can not be held while holding a PhD fellowship. For employees of the Italian Public Administration compulsory unpaid leave of absence is foreseen.

The grant cannot be held contemporarily with other fellowships of whatever kind, except those awarded with the aim of integrating the training or research activity of the candidate through a period spent abroad.

When officially accepting the grant, the successful candidate will issue a declaration of absence of inadmissible cumulating of grants/fellowships.

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#### Art. 5 – Host Institution and duration of the grant



The grant is for two years, with possible extension of one year depending on the favourable opinion of the scientific leader of the project and on funding availability. In accordance with Law n. 240/2011 the duration of the grant, inclusive of possible renewal, will not exceed four years, with the exclusion of the period in which the grant is held in coincidence with attendance at a PhD course. Host institution of the grant is INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste.

#### Art. 6 – Salary amount

The gross annual salary is Euro 29,640.00 (twenty nine thousand six hundred and forty/00). This amount is net of burdens to be charged to INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste and will be paid in deferred monthly instalments.

Applicable fiscal rules are the provisions of art. n. 4 of Italian law n. 476/1984 and subsequent modifications and integrations. Applicable social security rules are art. n. 2, paragraph 26 and following paragraphs of the Italian law n. 335/1995 and subsequent modifications and integrations. Applicable rules for obligatory maternity leave are provided in the Decree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security dated 12 July 2007, published in the “Gazzetta Ufficiale” n. 247 dated 23 October 2007. Applicable rules for sick leave are provided by art. n. 1, paragraph n. 788 of Italian law n. 296 dated 27 December 2006 and subsequent modifications.

During the period of obligatory maternity leave the allowance paid by INPS (Italian national institute for social security) according to art. n. 5 of the above Decree dated 12 July 2007 is supplemented by INAF up to the total amount of the grant.

#### Art. 7 – Selection procedure

The selection of eligible candidates will be performed by a Selection Committee appointed by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste.

The selection will be based on submitted qualifications. Eligible candidates will be interviewed to establish their scientific and professional experience’s relevance to the research project. The Selection Committee will define and formally set out the evaluation criteria of both qualifications and the interview.

The following qualifications will be assessed:

1. detailed curriculum vitae;
2. publication list;
3. any additional papers or scientific works that applicants may consider useful to qualify their scientific experience;
4. degree in astronomy or in physics and PhD certificate;
5. two letters of references.

The Selection Committee shall rank eligible applicants to be interviewed. Eligible candidates will be summoned for the interview with a 15 days’ notice by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. The final ranking list as well as the written assessments



made by the Committee shall be notified through posting on the Notice Board of the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste, via Tiepolo 11, in Trieste.

The Approval Decree of the official selection procedure and any other decree relevant to the selection shall be notified through posting on the Notice Board of the Osservatorio Astronomico as well as on the website [www.ts.astro.it](http://www.ts.astro.it).

In case of renunciation of the grant winner, the grant will be awarded to the second best application.

#### Art. 8 – Contract Formalisation

Within ten days upon formal notification's receipt, the grant winner is bound to provide formal acceptance of the research grant without reservation and under the conditions prescribed in the contract which shall be signed on the date and place established by the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste. In alternative the winner is bound to provide formal announcement of renunciation to the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste.

Under no circumstances does the signing of the contract start a subordinate employment, nor does it ensure priority access to the permanent staff of the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste.

The grant holder is bound to take out a health insurance unless he/she benefits from the National Health Service pursuant to Law 833/1978. As for accidents at work and civil liabilities, the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste shall duly draw up a liability insurance in compliance with the laws in force.

The Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste has appointed Dr. Matteo Viel as scientific leader/tutor of the grant holder, whose specific task is to supervise and coordinate the research activity performed.

In case of contract rescission, the grant holder is bound to send a written communication with 30 days' notice. The notice starts from day 1 or day 16 of each month. In case the grant holder should fail to send the notice, the Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste has the authority to suspend, or ask for reimbursement of the amount corresponding to the notice time-span the grant holder has failed to send. Upon contract signing, the next eligible applicant in the ranking list is entitled to receive the remaining amount of the grant salary

#### Article 9 – Applicable regulation

The Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste shall abide by the provisions promoting equal opportunities for women and men and anti-discrimination, as well as the provisions ruling the processing of personal data as applicable to research grant agreements.

For what not explicitly mentioned in this announcement, the Osservatorio Astronomico shall act in compliance with the regulations in force concerning public selection procedures.

The Director  
Dr. Massimo Turatto

Trieste, 14 April 2011



Attachment 1

Application form

To the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste  
Via G.B. Tiepolo, 11  
34143 Trieste, Italy

The undersigned (Forename(s))..... (Surname).....  
Place of birth (Town/State).....  
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy) .....  
Permanent residence address (number/street/town/postal code/Country): .....

Hereby applies to participate to the selection for the appointment of one research grant entitled: “Physical properties of the Intergalactic Medium”.

Under her/his personal responsibility the undersigned declares:

- a) her/his nationality is: .....
- b) to enjoy civil and political rights of the State of which she/he holds citizenship;
- c) not to have been in the past or not to be at present under any penal sentence (if liable, please specify) .....
- d) to hold the following educational qualifications: .....
- e) research grants and/or fellowships hold in the past (length and host Institution): .....
- f) to be presently holding the following research grant or fellowship (length and host Institution): .....

The following documents are attached:

1. curriculum vitae et studiorum, in which also past research grants or fellowships are listed;
2. list of publications available on-line.
3. any work or publications not available electronically which might be useful for qualifying the scientific curriculum;
4. foreign citizens are requested to attach copy of the University degree/academic qualification certificate inclusive of the list of individual exams and the final score, or copy of the equivalent foreign degree certificate, and copy of the PhD certificate or of the equivalent foreign academic qualification;
5. two reference letters;
6. list of qualifications and of any other submitted document, specifying the total number of works and published papers;
7. declaration (see Attachment 2).

The undersigned authorizes the Administrative Office of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste to use and store her/his personal data only for the purpose of the present selection.

**INAF**



**ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI ASTROFISICA**  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASTROPHYSICS



OSSERVATORIO ASTRONOMICO DI TRIESTE

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The undersigned wishes to receive paper communications concerning the selection at the following address (number/street/town/postal code/State); (if possible list also phone number, fax number and e-mail contact) .....

Place and date (dd/mm/yy).....

(Applicant's signature, not to be authenticated)



Attachment 2

SELF-CERTIFICATION

The undersigned (Forename(s))..... (Surname).....  
 Place of birth (Town/State) .....  
 Date of birth (dd/mm/yy) .....  
 Permanent residence address (number/street/town/postal code/Country) .....,

As candidate to the selection for one research grant issued by INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste with Director's Decree n. 27/2011, aware that producing false statements and forged documents, as well as the use of forged documents shall be punished in accordance with the Criminal Code and with any other applicable special acts on this matter,

DECLARES AND SELF-CERTIFIES

- 1) that submitted copies of academic theses and dissertations, of publications and works are conformal copies of the original documents;
- 2) to hold the following degree in: (discipline) .....  
 Date of award: (dd/mm/yy).....  
 Awarding University: ..... Final mark: .....
- 3) to hold the following academic qualifications: (discipline/date of award/awarding university/final mark) .....  
 PhD degree in: (discipline) .....  
 Date of award: (dd/mm/yy)..... Awarding University:.....  
 Certificates of attendance to post-degree courses: .....  
 Fellowships: .....  
 Research contracts/grants at private and/or public institutions: .....  
 Other:.....

Place and date (dd/mm/yy)

..... (\*)  
 (full applicant's signature)

(\*) Not authenticated

N.B. A photocopy, not authenticated, of a valid identity document of the applicant must be attached.