ISAAC NEWTON GROUP OF TELESCOPES
Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory, La Palma

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY FOR OBSERVING TIME IN SEMESTER 2019B: 1st August, 2019 – 31st January, 2020

***** WHT only (UK + Spanish Time) *****

Following re-scheduling of a WHT standdown for pre-installation work on WEAVE, ~ 80 nights of 2019B have become available for science. Proposals are invited for use of the UK and Spanish shares of this WHT time. Applicants can assume that the usual B-semester range of right ascension is observable.

Contents:

1. Proposal submission and deadlines

Information about applying for time on the 4.2-m William Herschel Telescope (WHT) can be found on:

http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/observing/INGinfo_home.html

Principal Investigators (PIs) employed or studying in a Spanish or UK institution at the time of submission should submit their proposal(s) to the Spanish or UK TAC respectively. PIs hosted by other countries, and Spanish or UK PIs wishing to submit a proposal to a TAC other than that of their host country, should refer to the information provided by the relevant TAC.

No call is being made for the Dutch share of the time (use of this time is being decided by the NL PC).

Advice on how to submit proposals, and submission deadlines, are provided by each TAC:

Spain (CAT) http://www.iac.es/OOCC/night-cat/
Form: http://cat.iac.es/
Deadline: 11 June (at 22:59 UT, i.e. 23:59 Canary Islands local time).

UK (PATT) http://www.stfc.ac.uk/funding/research-grants/funding-opportunities/applying-for-time-on-stfc-astronomy-facilities/
Form: http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/observing/patt/PATT_Appl.html
Deadline: 11 June (at 24:00 UT, i.e. 12 June 01:00am UK local time).

Requests for observations which are likely to enhance exploitation of the upcoming surveys with WEAVE (new 1000-fibre multi-object spectrograph, at the WHT from 2019), e.g. pre-imaging, are also particularly welcome.

2. Instrumentation

Information about instrumentation and planned stand-down periods in the transition to WEAVE are given on the following link, and we encourage prospective users to check it for up-to-date news:

http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/instr.html

3. Common-user instruments

The instruments currently available on the WHT are shown on:

http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/observing/instruments.html

and are summarised below. Please direct any queries about individual instruments to the relevant ING instrument specialists (contact details on the above link).

Instrument	Description
ISIS	Medium-resolution long-slit spectroscopy, and spectropolarimetry and imaging polarimetry.
ISIS/QUCAMs	Spectroscopy with high time resolution and/or of faint objects (L3 CCDs).
LIRIS	Near-IR imaging (4-arcmin field) through broad- and narrow-band filters, and long-slit spectroscopy, multi-object (slit masks) spectroscopy, spectropolarimetry and imaging polarimetry. PIs awarded time in multi-slit mode are strongly encouraged to initiate the design of their slit masks on publication of the telescope schedules. The cost of manufacturing the slit masks for MOS mode (€600 to €900 per mask) must be covered by the home institution of the proposing team. IAC provides mask design, and manages the procurement process. Please contact the IAC LIRIS team (liris@iac.es) to initiate mask manufacture.
ACAM	High-throughput imaging (8-arcmin field) through broad- and narrow-band filters, and low-resolution long-slit spectroscopy. Observations can be made with ACAM at any time, except when an instrument is mounted at prime focus.

4. Visitor instruments

Applicants wishing to submit proposals to use an established visitor instrument on the WHT should in the first instance contact the relevant person listed below:

Instrument	Contact
GHaFaS	John Beckman, jeb@iac.es
PAUCam	Francisco Castander, fjcastander@gmail.com
PN.S	Magda Arnaboldi, marnabol@eso.org

The PAUCam imager (field of view ~1 deg^2) is available to the ING community. Observers interested in using PAUCam should contact Francisco Castander at the email address above, regarding any issues not addressed in the PAUCam web pages, and also for advice about the likely timing of PAUCam survey runs during that semester. All scheduled observations will be carried out by the PAUCam team.

PIs considering a proposal to deploy a visitor instrument which is new to the WHT should email the ING Director (Marc Balcells, director@ing.iac.es) in advance of the proposal deadlines stating their intent, and should also submit a Technical Appraisal form. Further information on the protocol to be followed for submitting proposals to deploy new visitor instruments, and a link to the Technical Appraisal form, are available on:

http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/observing/NewVisitorInstruments.html

Nasmyth visiting instruments are mounted on the GRACE Nasmyth platform. The GHRIL platform is being refurbished to house the WEAVE spectrograph, and is no longer available to visiting-instrument teams.

5. Observer support at the telescope

A summary of the observer support available at the WHT can be found on:

http://www.ing.iac.es/astronomy/planning/support.html

Astronomical support will be provided during the first evening, and part of the first night, of each WHT run (apart from runs with established visiting instruments), and will include an introduction to the telescope, instrumentation and data-acquisition systems, and safety issues. The support astronomer (SA) will be on-call

at the Residencia throughout the first night. The WHT Observing Support Assistant (OSA) provides all-night, year-round operator and engineering support at the telescope.

Manual changes to the configuration of an instrument during an observing run (e.g. installation of a filter, dichroic or grating) will be accommodated if they were explicitly specified in the observing proposal, and confirmed with the SA well in advance of the run. These changes will be made by ING staff, and must not be made by visiting observers. At the WHT, such changes can also be made during the night by the OSA (but may incur significant observing overheads).

Each PI will be contacted by the SA about one month in advance of observing, to confirm the instrument configuration, discuss the observing plan, etc.

6. Observer experience

Inexperienced WHT observers must be accompanied by an experienced observer. 'Inexperienced' here means unable, alone, to make efficient (and safe) use of the observing night, whether from general lack of observing experience, or from lack of experience with the specific techniques to be used. This lack of experience will not adequately be compensated by the start-of-run training provided by observatory support staff.

ING relies on student supervisors, and experienced members of proposing teams, to ensure that less-experienced observers prepare adequately for their observing runs, before travelling to La Palma.

Marc Balcells, Director ING (director@ing.iac.es)
Chris Benn, Head of Astronomy (crb@ing.iac.es)
29th May 2019