

# Multi-Object Spectroscopy in the Next Decade: Big Questions, Large Surveys and Wide Fields

Santa Cruz de La Palma, Canary Islands, 2-6 March 2015

## Second Announcement

This is the second announcement of an international astronomy conference *Multi-Object Spectroscopy in the Next Decade: Big Questions, Large Surveys and Wide Fields*, to be held on the island of La Palma, Canary Islands from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

Surveys of the sky across the electromagnetic spectrum from ground- and space-based observatories are central to progress in astronomy. Ongoing and planned surveys in the coming decade are motivated by some of the most compelling questions confronting astronomers, for example: Why is the expansion of the universe accelerating? What is the nature and distribution of dark matter? How do galaxies form and evolve? What is the fossil record of the assembly of the Milky Way?

Several next-generation survey spectrographs are already under development around the world. This conference will bring together a diverse cross-section of the international astronomical community to discuss the underlying science aspirations of the impending massive spectroscopic surveys, explore strategies for optimising their scientific impact, summarise lessons learned from previous large-scale surveys, and share the technical challenges of developing and operating the sophisticated instruments which will make these studies feasible.

Registration is now open; please visit the conference website <http://www.ing.iac.es/conferences/mos/> for further information. We look forward to welcoming you, and to your participation in the conference.

## Science Programme

The broad theme of the conference is massive spectroscopic surveys in the contexts of

Galactic archaeology  
Star formation and evolution  
Galaxy evolution  
Cosmology

Three sessions will be devoted to each science sub-theme; the big questions, current surveys and instruments, and future surveys and instruments. Each session will open with a keynote overview presentation of the sub-theme, and we welcome abstracts for contributed oral and poster presentations in your area(s) of interest.

## Keynote Speakers

Rebecca Bernstein – Carnegie Observatories  
Matt Bershad – University of Wisconsin  
Adam Bolton – University of Utah  
Matthew Colless – Australian National University  
Scott Croom – University of Sydney  
Chris Evans – UK Astronomy Technology Centre  
Sofia Feltzing – Lund Observatory  
Carlos Frenk – University of Durham  
Gerry Gilmore – University of Cambridge  
Artemio Herrero Davó – Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias  
Alex de Koter – University of Amsterdam  
Paco Prada – Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía  
Risa Wechsler – Stanford University  
Rosie Wyse – Johns Hopkins University

## Scientific Organising Committee

Joss Bland-Hawthorn – University of Sydney  
Adam Bolton – University of Utah  
Michele Cirasuolo – Royal Observatory Edinburgh  
Francesca Figueras – University of Barcelona  
Amina Helmi – University of Groningen  
Gary Hill – University of Texas  
Alex de Koter – University of Amsterdam  
Alfonso López Aguerra – Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias  
Bob Nichol – University of Portsmouth  
Bianca Poggianti – University of Padova  
Huub Röttgering – Leiden University  
Ian Skillen – Isaac Newton Group (co-chair)  
Scott Trager – University of Groningen (co-chair)  
Risa Wechsler – Stanford University  
Rosie Wyse – Johns Hopkins University

## Key Dates

28 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	Third and final announcement
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	Abstract submission deadline
16 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Full programme and abstracts published
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Registration and payment deadline
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2015	Welcome reception and in-person registration
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2015	Conference begins
5 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Conference dinner
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	Submission deadline for manuscripts

## Contact Details

Web Site: <http://www.ing.iac.es/conferences/mos/>  
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15<sup>th</sup> September 2014