



# National Science Foundation

## *Rotational Vacancy*

**ANNOUNCEMENT NO:** E20050124-Rotator

**OPEN:** 08/15/2005

**CLOSE:** 09/30/2005

**POSITION MAY BE FILLED ON A ONE OR TWO YEAR VISITING SCIENTIST APPOINTMENT, INTERGOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL ACT (IPA) ASSIGNMENT BASIS, OR FEDERAL TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT.**

**Individuals wishing to apply to the Permanent position see vacancy announcement E20050123**

The National Science Foundation is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Program Director in the Division of Astronomical Sciences (AST), Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Arlington, VA.

AST is the primary source of support for ground-based astronomy in the U.S. AST supports the development and operation of four National Astronomy Observatories: the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO), the National Solar Observatory (NSO), the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO), and the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center (NAIC) and provides the U.S. share of funding for the operation of the Gemini Observatory, and serves as the executive agency for the Partnership. AST supports individual investigators and small groups engaged in a broad array of observational, theoretical, and laboratory research aimed at understanding the states of matter and physical processes in the Solar System, our Milky Way galaxy, and the Universe. Division programs also support the development of advanced technologies and instrumentation, the planning and design for future observational facilities and major collaborative and interagency projects in astronomy. More information about the Division and their programs can be found on their website at <http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=AST>.

This position may be filled on a one or two year Visiting Scientist Appointment, under the terms of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) or as a Federal Temporary Appointment. Temporary and Visiting Scientist appointments will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act with a current salary range of \$88,369 to \$137,713, depending on qualifications and experience. For Visiting Scientist appointments, individuals are in a non-pay leave status from the home institution and are appointed to NSF's payroll as a Federal employee. NSF withholds FICA and provides reimbursement for fringe benefits. For Federal temporary appointments of more than one year, the usual civil service benefits (retirement, health and life insurance) are applicable. For IPA assignments, the individual remains an employee on the payroll of his or her home institution and the institution continues to administer pay and benefits. NSF reimburses the institution for NSF's negotiated share of the costs. Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment include employees of State and local government agencies, institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, federally funded research and development centers and qualified nonprofit organizations. For more information regarding Visiting Scientist appointments or IPA assignments, visit our website at [http://www.nsf.gov/about/career\\_ops](http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_ops).

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The candidate selected for this position will have primary responsibility for the oversight, coordination and management of grants programs and projects involving optical/IR instrumentation and technology development, including the optical/IR component of the Division's Advanced Technologies and Instrumentation (ATI) program, the Program for Research and Education with Small Telescopes (PREST), the community instrumentation programs being coordinated at the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO), such as the Telescope Systems Instrumentation Program (TSIP) and the Adaptive Optics Development Program (AODP), and the NSF-wide instrumentation programs such as the Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program. In consultation with other Program Officers in the Division, the incumbent will coordinate these diverse programs with the ongoing instrumentation and technology development efforts at the national observatories (Gemini, NOAO, NSO) in order to develop and optimize an efficient and cost-effective system of ground-based optical/IR instrumentation. The candidate may manage or

assist in the review and administration of projects involving the design and development of future facility-class instruments or observing capabilities and in the disciplinary research grants programs according to his/her scientific expertise. The candidate will be involved in activities that include planning, budget development, the merit review and proposal recommendation process, the preparation of written material about the research supported by the Division, and liaison with other NSF programs, Federal agencies and organizations. The candidate must possess knowledge of advanced instrumentation, especially as it applies to optical and IR astronomy. Candidates are expected to work with the astronomical research and education community to broaden the diversity of participants in NSF programs.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:** Applicants must possess a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in astronomy, astrophysics, or a closely related field. In addition, six years of successful research, research administration, and/or managerial experience pertinent to the program is required.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Applications may be transmitted electronically to [rotator@nsf.gov](mailto:rotator@nsf.gov). Individuals may also submit a resume or any application of your choice to the National Science Foundation, Division of Human Resource Management, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Attn: E20050124-Rotator. In addition, you are encouraged to submit a narrative statement that addresses your background and/or experience related to the Program. You are asked to complete and submit the attached Applicant Survey form. Submission of this form is voluntary and will not affect your application for employment (the information is used for statistical purposes). Telephone inquiries may be referred to the Executive and Visiting Personnel Branch, at (703) 292-8755. For technical information, contact Dr. Eileen D. Friel at (703) 292-4895. Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD (703) 292-8044.

The National Science Foundation provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the point of contact listed on this vacancy announcement.

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HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION**

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
APPLICANT SURVEY

OMB No. 3145-0096  
Expiration: 7/31/2005

Vacancy Ann. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Status (temporary/permanent): \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTIONS

Your completion of this form will be appreciated. Submission of this Information is voluntary and it will have no effect on the processing of your application. The data collected will be used only for statistical purposes to ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0096. NSF estimates that each respondent should take about 3 minutes to complete this survey, including time to read the instructions. You may have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing this burden. If so, please send them to NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Division of Administrative Services, NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. 22230.

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION

GENERAL - This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 31, 1974, for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information.

AUTHORITY - Section 7201 of title 5 of the U.S. Code and Section 2000e-16 of title 42 of the U.S. Code.

PURPOSE AND ROUTINE USES

The information is used for research and for a Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program (FEORP) to help insure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Address questions concerning this form and its uses to the Privacy Act Officer, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

1. Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

3. How did you learn about the particular position for which you are applying? (Circle appropriate number.)

- 01 - Newspaper (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 02 - Contact with NSF Personnel Office (Agency Bulletin Board or other Announcement)
- 03 - NSF-initiated personal contact
- 04 - Science Magazine, or other professional journal or magazine (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 05 - Affirmative Action Register
- 06 - Attendance at conference, meeting or job fair (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 07 - NSF recruitment at school or college
- 08 - Colleague referral
- 09 - NSF Bulletin
- 10 - Federal, State or local job information center
- 11 - State vocational rehabilitation agency or Veterans Administration
- 12 - State employment office
- 13 - School or college counselor or other official
- 14 - Private job Information service
- 15 - Private employment service
- 16 - Friend or relative working at NSF
- 17 - Friend or relative not working at NSF
- 18 - NSF website
- 19 - Internet or other website
- 20 - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Select the ethnic category with which you most closely identify:

- A. **Hispanic or Latino.** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- B. **Not Hispanic or Latino.**

5. Select one or more racial category with which you most closely identify:

- A. **American Indian or Alaska Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- B. **Asian.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- C. **Black or African American.** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- D. **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- E. **White.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

6. Sex (Circle the appropriate letter.) F - Female M - Male

7. Please provide information on your disability status by circling the appropriate category below:

- 1. I do not have a disability; 2. Hearing impairment; 3. Vision impairment; 4. Missing extremities; 5. Partial paralysis;
- 6. Complete paralysis; 7. Convulsive disorder; 8. Mental retardation; 9. Mental or emotional illness; 10. Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine; 11. I have a disability but it is not listed.

FOR AGENCY USE

Agency Code: \_\_\_\_\_

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER