

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- Project Assistant Professor, Astrobiology Center

Astrobiology is a new discipline that searches for places in the universe that can accommodate life and discusses the origins and evolution of life without fixating solely on the Earth. It is regarded as an extremely wide-ranging interdisciplinary subject, spanning fields including astronomy, planetary science, biology, biochemistry, earth science and engineering.

The Astrobiology Center (ABC) has a position open for a project assistant professor who will lead research for exo-planet and astrobiology. In this position, we expect applications from non-Japanese scientists who are looking to actively take on new challenges in this field.

1. Job Title: Project Assistant Professor, one position
2. Division and Location: Astrobiology Center, Mitaka, Tokyo
3. Area of Expertise: Exoplanet astronomy and Astrobiology

4. Job Description:

A successful candidate for this position is expected to:

- A) Exo-planet research using ABC related instruments (Subaru/IRD, MuSCAT series, etc.).
- B) A key role in the astrobiology research mainly based on exo-planet research.

As qualifications for this position, applicants are expected to have extensive experience and skills in the field of exoplanet astronomy and astrobiology, and leadership and management ability to strongly promote astronomical research to meet the demands of the times.

5. Terms of Appointment:

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

The term is for five (5) years, including the probation period of six (6) months. An annual performance review will be conducted. If the successful candidate has already been employed as an NINS (National Institutes of Natural Sciences) employee since April 1, 2013, the term may be set so that the total accumulated period of employment does not exceed ten (10) years continuously.

6. Minimum Requirements:

- (1) Ph.D. or equivalent.
- (2) Experience as a lead or key member of exo-planet research.

7. Required Application Materials (*to be prepared in English—any other language will not be accepted):

- (1) Cover letter.
- (2) Curriculum vitae.
- (3) Publications list with separate sections identifying refereed and non-refereed papers (SPIE publications can be included in the refereed papers).
- (4) Summary of past research activities, including international collaborations.
- (5) Plans for fulfilling the responsibilities and aspirations for the position (including your research plan

as applicable).

- (6) Contact information (e-mail address and phone number at which you can be reached easily) and the e-mail address of your current supervisor or line manager.
- (7) Two or more reference letters. Please ask the people providing references to send their letters as an e-mail attachment to the submission address shown in 9.(1) below. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the letters arrive before the application deadline.

8. Application Deadline: ~~Sep. 3rd~~, Sep. 10th, 2021, 17:00 (Japan Standard Time).

9. The e-mail addresses for the application and inquiries are:

- (1) Application documents and two letters of references should be sent to:

E-mail address: abc-apply_AT_abc-nins.jp (replace _AT_ with @).

As the subject of the e-mail, write “Application for Project Assistant Professor Position of Astrobiology Center.”

- (2) Contact for Inquiries:

E-mail address: motohide.tamura_AT_ao.ac.jp (replace _AT_ with @)

Prof. Tamura, Astrobiology Center Director

10. Notes for the Application:

- Convert each application document, from 7.(1) through 7.(6) listed above, into a separate PDF file and attach them to your e-mail.
- Make PDF files with appropriate resolution so that they will not be too large (file size up to 10 MB).
- Upon receipt of your application, you will receive a confirmation e-mail. If you do not receive any response from Astrobiology Center within 3 working days, please contact abc-apply_AT_abc-nins.jp (replace _AT_ with @).
- Candidates selected for the final short list may be interviewed by the selection committee either via the internet or face-to-face.
- If the selection committee decides that there is no qualified candidate for the position, it is possible that no candidate will be selected.

11. Remarks:

- The ABC Advisory Committee for Research and Management will make the final decision on the appointment.
- Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity: ABC abides by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, and ABC is committed to the realization of a society with gender equality. If two candidates are deemed equal in their performance evaluation, ABC will take positive action to employ women.
- Smoking is prohibited on the premises excluding designated outdoor smoking areas.
- 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 for those submitted by the successful candidate.

12. Compensation:

- Salary is dependent upon experience and qualifications.
- Commuting expenses (up to 55,000 JPY per month) will be provided. Bonus and retirement

allowances are not provided.

- Travel and relocation costs to ABC will be covered, subject to the travel regulations of NINS (details must be arranged with the administration office).