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\*\*\*IAU Division D Bulletin, December 2020\*\*\*

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\*AHEAD2020 Announcement of Opportunity Cycle 1<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

The AHEAD2020 (Integrated Activities for High Energy Astrophysics\*) will call for a program of transnational visits to be started around Spring 2021. The main objectives are: 1) fostering new or strengthening existing collaborations in the fields of technology and data analysis (visitor program); 2) providing training and/or mentoring on high energy data analysis, use of advanced tools and computational astrophysics; 3) providing free access to some of the best European ground test and calibration facilities relevant for high-energy astrophysics.<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Visitor grants include full reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses. To face possible restrictions to travel as an effect of the current pandemic, the possibility of remote access for a number of services in the area of data analysis, tools and computational astrophysics will be provided.

AO-1 Calls opening: 11 January 2021  
Submission Deadline: 22 February 2021

For further information and links to the AO-1 calls: <http://ahead.iaps.inaf.it/><sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

\* AHEAD2020 is a Research Infrastructure program funded by EU Horizon 2020. Its main goal is to integrate and open research infrastructures for high energy Astrophysics. For general information on AHEAD2020:

<http://ahead.iaps.inaf.it/>

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\*Survey on research culture in astronomy

Julia Heuritsch, a PhD Candidate at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, is undertaking a survey to study the research culture in astronomy, and would like to solicit input from IAU members and their colleagues, particularly early career researchers. Julia has provided the following information about the project:

“This survey was designed by a former astronomer to study the research culture in Astronomy. This includes your aspirations in research, your experience of the publication

culture and your perceptions with respect to research behaviour, including scientific misconduct. Your experiences are vital to better understand the factors that enable or constrain your research.

By taking this survey, you will help improve working conditions in research: the results of this survey will lead to recommendations for policy makers on the practical structural initiatives needed to support astronomers conduct research in the best conditions. This survey will take you approximately 20-30 minutes, depending on your answers. For optimal functionality please use a laptop/ PC. Please click on this link to participate in the survey: <https://umfrage.hu-berlin.de/index.php/853818?lang=en>

Since it's important that astronomers of all career stages are represented, we would like to ask you to forward this to early-career researchers, who are underrepresented in the IAU. These could be PhD candidates that you supervise or teach, for example. We apologise for any cross-posting. Thank you very much in advance, your participation is very much appreciated! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Your query will be answered as quickly as possible and will remain confidential.

Julia Heuritsch, MSc <sup>[SEP]</sup>  
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Anonymity & Data protection: <sup>[SEP]</sup>This survey is completely anonymous. In particular, it will not be possible to infer identity from the results, which will be published in a scientific journal article. If you, however, want to be informed about the results, you may add your email address in the comment section on the last page of the survey or write an email to [julia.heuritsch@hu-berlin.de](mailto:julia.heuritsch@hu-berlin.de). The data collection is in compliance with the European data protection regulation (GDPR). You can find more information on the university's data protection policy here: [https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/hu-en/imprint/data-protection-statement?set\\_language=en](https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/hu-en/imprint/data-protection-statement?set_language=en) Since this survey is also completely voluntary, you may withdraw from the survey at any time. However, for the sake of this study we hope that you will complete the survey. <sup>[SEP]</sup>

More information on the project: Julia is a member of the junior research group "Reflexive Metrics" located at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin. Reflexive Metrics is a relatively new field in science studies, which combines the two strands, the sociology of quantification and the sociology of evaluation, in order to study what effects indicator use in research evaluation (e.g. publication and citation rates) has on research and researchers themselves. It is important to question the use of quantitative measurements in evaluation processes as an established practice in order to inform policy makers what effects their policies have on science and what they need to consider to encourage quality research and motivated researchers. Please find more information on the junior research group (in German) here: <https://www.sowi.hu-berlin.de/de/lehrbereiche/wissenschaftsforschung/Forschung/reflexivemetrics>. Please find more information about Reflexive Metrics here: [https://www.dzhw.eu/en/forschung/projekt?pr\\_id=605](https://www.dzhw.eu/en/forschung/projekt?pr_id=605)

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\*Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, Workshops and Schools

CompOSE 2021- neutron star equations of state and transport properties

February 24-26, 2021

Barcelona, Spain or virtually

<https://www.astro.unige.ch/compose2021/>

57th Karpacz Winter School of Theoretical Physics "Equation of state of dense matter and multimessenger astronomy"

March 7-21 2021

Wroclaw, Poland

<https://events.ift.uni.wroc.pl/event/68/>

GGI PhD School "Theoretical Aspects of Astroparticle Physics, Cosmology and Gravitation"

March 15-27, 2021

Arcetri, Italy

<https://www.ggi.infn.it/showevent.pl?id=385>

XMM-Newton (Virtual) Workshop 2021: A High-Energy View of Exoplanets and their Environments

May 24-28 2021

Virtual Workshop - Online

<http://xmmworkshop.esa.int/>

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If you wish to share with IAU Div D any information about matters that may be relevant to the activities of Div D Members, please send an e-mail to [A.L.Watts@uva.nl](mailto:A.L.Watts@uva.nl). This will appear in the next Bulletin, which will be sent out on or around January 1, 2021. Thank you in advance for your inputs, and best regards.

Professor Anna Watts, Secretary of IAU Div D Steering Committee  
University of Amsterdam