Postdoctoral Position in Planet Formation Theory

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral research position in theoretical planet formation at the University of Wyoming. The successful candidate will work with Prof. Hannah Jang-Condell on incorporating radiative transfer in hydrodynamic simulations of planet formation in gas-rich protoplanetary disks. The objectives of this research are (1) to predict and model observable signatures of active planet formation in disks, (2) to determine how those signatures vary with planet properties such as mass and distance, and (3) to apply our models to resolved images of protoplanetary disks in order to determine the timing and locations of planet formation. Previous experience in 3D hydrodynamics and/or radiative transfer is highly desirable.

Resources available at the University of Wyoming include the NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputer Center, a 2.3 m optical/infrared telescope (WIRO), and a 24 inch telescope (Red Buttes Observatory).

The initial appointment will be for two years, with the possibility of renewal for a third year. The appointment can begin as early as September 2011, but a later start date is possible. The position includes health, dental, and retirement benefits.

Complete applications should include a curriculum vitae, a publications list, a statement of research interests, and three letters of reference. All materials should be sent to physics@uwyo.edu. Electronic applications in pdf format are preferred. Applications received by August 1 will receive full consideration.

The University of Wyoming is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. All qualified applicants receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability, marital, veteran or any other legally protected status.

The University of Wyoming is dedicated to ensuring a safe and secure environment for our faculty, staff, students and visitors. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations on prospective employees.

The University of Wyoming is located in Laramie, a town of 27,000 in the heart of the Rocky Mountain West. Wyoming is investing in its university, helping to make it a leader in academics, research and outreach. The university has state-of-the-art facilities in many areas and is a cultural center for the state. Located on a high plain between the Laramie and Snowy Range mountain ranges, Laramie has more than 200 days of sunshine a year and has near year-round outdoor activities that include skiing, hiking, camping, bicycling, fishing and climbing. The community provides the advantages of a major university and a distinctive identity as an important city in a frontier state. Laramie is near many of Colorado’s major cities and university communities (Fort Collins: 1 hour; Boulder: 1.5 hours; Denver: 2 hours; Colorado Springs: 4 hours).