The Informatics Institute and the Anton Pannekoek Astronomical Institute of the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, have a vacancy for a

PhD student, for research in computational astrophysics
full time
vacancy number 06-1029

The position is offered in collaboration with the Computer Science Section and the Anton Pannekoek Astronomical Institute, and is open to both internal and external candidates.

Requirements
We are looking for a student who has an interest in computational science, grid computing, parallel algorithms and astrophysics, and can communicate fluently in English. He or she will be integrated in a large international collaboration (Amsterdam, IAS Princeton USA, Drexel U. USA, U. Tokyo Japan, ARI Heidelberg Germany).

The computational aspects focus on the design of a GRID computer with special purpose GRAPE-6 hardware and on conducting gravitational N-body simulations to study the dynamical evolution of dense stellar clusters and galactic nuclei. The PhD student will be expected to develop a numerical environment for the nationwide computational GRID that is equipped with specialized hardware, conduct model calculations and analyse the scientific results. The scientific results should culminate in a PhD thesis.

More information
Information is available at http://modesta.science.uva.nl. For further questions, please contact Simon Portegies Zwart: Anton Pannekoek Astronomical Institute and Computational Science Section, University of Amsterdam, Kruislaan 403, 1098 SJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands, tel.: +31 (0)20 5257510, fax: +31 (0)20 5257484, e-mail: spz@science.uva.nl.

Appointment
The appointment will be full time (38 hours a week) for a period of four years (one year plus a further three years after a positive evaluation) and should lead to a dissertation. The gross monthly salary will be in accordance with the University regulations for academic personnel, and will range from € 1,933 (first year) up to a maximum of € 2,472 (fourth year) based on a full-time appointment.

Applications
Applications should include:
• a detailed curriculum vitae (with a transcript of grades and courses from the applicant's MSc degree)
• a brief statement of research experience
• the names and contact information of two people who can serve as a references

The position is open to students of all nationalities who hold the equivalent of a Master's (MSc) or engineering degree in a relevant field.

Applications should be sent to: Universiteit of Amsterdam, Faculty of Science, Personnel Dept. attn J.C. Knaap-Cabi, Kruislaan 404, 1098 SM Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Applications may also be sent by e-mail to: application@science.uva.nl, attn. J.C. Knaap-Cabi, also bearing the vacancy number and the other documents.

The deadline for applications is 1 July 2006.