

The Institute for Astronomy, Astrophysics, Space Applications and Remote Sensing (IAASARS) of the National Observatory of Athens invites applications for 1 PhD position on characterizing evolved massive stars in nearby galaxies **in the framework of the ERC consolidator grant titled** *"Episodic Mass Loss in Massive Stars: Key to Understanding the Explosive Early Universe"* (ASSESS). The aim of the project is to determine whether episodic mass loss is a dominant process in the evolution of the most massive stars. Applicants with previous experience in stellar astrophysics and in particular massive stars, stellar variability, and the analysis of spectroscopic data are particularly encouraged to apply. The duration of the position will be 3 years.

The successful candidate is expected to be highly motivated and able to work within a diverse team. They will work under the supervision of the PI, Dr. A. Bonanos. A MSc in (astro)physics or a related field is required.

Submission and inquiries should be addressed to Dr. A. Bonanos (e-mail: <u>bonanos@noa.gr</u>, tel.: +30 2108109177). Applications (in english) should include a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, a brief statement of current and future research interests (in PDF format) and three letters of reference, sent directly by e-mail to Dr. Bonanos. Consideration of applications will begin on **July 30th**, **2021** and will continue until the position is filled. A starting date in the Fall 2021 is anticipated. The salary is competitive and a generous travel allowance will be provided.

IAASARS is the largest research institute in the field of astrophysics, space physics, and remote sensing in Greece, with 28 tenured researchers, 6 scientific and technical support specialists, 29 postdocs and 39 graduate students. The main activities of the Institute involve basic and applied research in a wide range of topics in astrophysics, from distant galaxies to the solar neighborhood, as well as ground based and space-borne remote sensing, earth observation and signal processing. Even though the science areas addressed by the various groups are diverse, close synergies and mobility among the groups have been established. In the process the personnel has developed expertise in sophisticated signal processing and data analysis techniques applying them to datasets produced by space-borne and ground based facilities. This has enabled the Institute to play a key role in major international scientific collaborations in fields such as X-ray astrophysics (e.g. XMM/Newton, eRosita, Athena+), Infrared astrophysics (e.g. Herschel), optical space missions (e.g. Gaia), solar physics and space weather (e.g. BepiColombo, Solar Orbiter, Rosetta, Cluster, THEMIS), and ionospheric physics. In addition, the Institute currently hosts two ERC grants. More information on the Institute and its personnel, as well as the research activities and its resources are available at: https://www.astro.noa.gr