

May 27, 2009

Dear Colleague,

NASA is pleased to call to the attention of members of the U.S. scientific community the release by the European Space Agency (ESA) of the “INTEGRAL Announcement of Opportunity for Obtaining Data Rights to Targets within Previously Approved AO-7 Observing Programmes.” This Announcement solicits proposals for obtaining data rights for targets within AO-7 observations of ESA’s INTERNATIONAL Gamma-Ray Astrophysics Laboratory (INTEGRAL) to be performed during the 14.5-month period from October 16, 2009 to December 31, 2010.

Due to the nature of the NASA-ESA bilateral agreement, this solicitation applies only to scientists affiliated with U.S. institutions; others are urged to contact ESA directly. U.S. scientists may propose either as Principal Investigators or as Co-Investigators on foreign P.I. proposals. The due date for proposals is July 3, 2009. The AO may be accessed directly from ESA at the following URL:

<http://www.sciops.esa.int/index.php?project=INTEGRAL&page=AO7S>

NASA has instituted an INTEGRAL Guest Observer Facility (GOF) at the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) as a support center for INTEGRAL activities in the U.S. Information of interest to U.S. observers, as well as general project information, can be found at the following address:

<http://integral.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

A detailed description of the mission, including instrument capabilities, and additional information pertaining to the proposal preparation and submission procedures, is also available via links to the INTEGRAL home page at that address. (Questions concerning U.S. participation in the INTEGRAL AO-7 program should be addressed to [steven.j.sturner@nasa.gov](mailto:steven.j.sturner@nasa.gov).) ESA will be responsible for conducting a peer review of all submitted proposals, including those from U.S. investigators, and determining the associated time allocation. Current plans call for ESA to notify proposers and NASA of the results of the peer review during September 2009.

We anticipate that NASA will make funding available for a Guest Observer (GO) program to support the analysis, interpretation, and publication of data obtained by U.S. proposers granted INTEGRAL data rights through the ESA AO, but such funding will be contingent upon approval by NASA HQ. Details regarding the timing and mechanism of any solicitation for funding requests will be announced at a later date; please do not submit a budget with your observing proposal.

For additional technical or programmatic information regarding U.S. participation in the INTEGRAL mission, please contact:

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