

INTEGRAL Announcement of Opportunity (AO-4)

Dear Colleague,

I am very pleased to invite you to respond to the 4th “Announcement of Opportunity” by submitting proposals for observations to be performed with the International Gamma-ray Astrophysics Laboratory (INTEGRAL) satellite.

The gamma-ray observatory INTEGRAL is the second medium-sized mission of ESA’s Horizon 2000 Science Programme. It was launched on a Proton rocket on 17th October 2002 and offers astronomers a unique opportunity to perform high resolution spectroscopy in the energy range from 20 keV to 8 MeV (Spectrometer SPI) and high angular resolution imaging in the energy range from 15 keV to 10 MeV (Imager IBIS). Concurrent monitoring of high energy sources is performed by the co-aligned monitors in the 3 keV to 35 keV X-ray band (X-ray Monitor JEM-X) and in the optical wavelengths (V, 500 – 600 nm) by the Optical Monitoring Camera OMC.

This Announcement solicits proposals for observations to be carried out in the period from August 2006 to August 2007. Proposers from all over the world are welcome to participate. All proposals will be subject to an independent peer review by the INTEGRAL Time Allocation Committee (TAC). Potential proposers are expected to prepare and submit proposals in electronic form by the deadline given below using the INTEGRAL Proposal Generation Tool software. The documentation, proposal submission and support software for this Announcement are being made available via the Internet at:

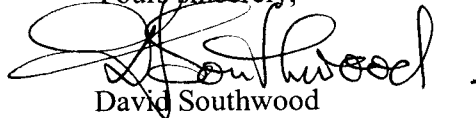
<http://integral.esac.esa.int/>

The key milestones for this Announcement are:

Release of Announcement of Opportunity:	13 March 2006
Due date for Proposals:	21 April 2006, 15:00 CET
Final TAC approved programme:	June 2006
Start of AO-4 Observations:	16 August 2006

I wish you success with your proposals to use the INTEGRAL observatory.

Yours sincerely,



David Southwood
Director of the Scientific Programme