

## A national ALMA initiative – call for proposals

The Instrument Center for Danish Astrophysics (IDA) is launching a national initiative in sub-mm astronomy. The aim is to establish a coordinated and sustainable science activity, which can exploit the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA), starting with the first call for proposals in 2010. The activity must be broadly based around the existing research groups in Denmark, should address key scientific questions with ALMA, and be sufficiently strong to ensure long-term existence, e.g., by attracting external funding. IDA can fund 8-10 FTEs for the initiative, starting as soon as possible and running through 2011.

IDA hereby invites applications for programs according to the strategy outlined above. In the period until ALMA becomes operational, projects with other sub-mm astrophysics facilities (e.g. APEX, *Planck*, *Herschel*) or projects within radio interferometry are acceptable provided they lead up to ALMA use. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals for whatever type of IDA support is deemed more suitable for the proposed activity, e.g., funding for individual or groups of postdocs and/or PhD students. Co-funding in support of the initiative is welcome, but not required. Based on the submitted proposals IDA will set up a national initiative in consultation with the involved parties.

Proposals will be assessed on the basis of scientific excellence, feasibility within the planned time span, vision and ambition, and contribution to creating a national ALMA science activity. They must include a well-defined timetable and a task breakdown, including a publication plan, if relevant. The most competitive applicants will be supported, irrespective of current employment status. Applications will be assessed by IDA's standing scientific committee, supplemented by a sub-mm expert. All scientists to be funded by IDA must be based at a Danish astrophysics institution for the duration of the initiative.

Applications must be based on the Word or LaTeX templates provided at IDAs' website (see below) and should include:

- Cover page: Project title, name of PI, name(s) of Col(s), name(s) of candidate(s) to be funded by IDA (if available), co-financing from other sources, and abstract (max. 10 lines)
- Project description: Outline of the general science context (importance for astrophysics) and explanation of how the proposed project will advance sub-mm astrophysics and exploitation of ALMA in Denmark (max. 3 pages, 2 pages recommended).
- Task break-down and timeline for the project (max. 1 page)
- Full budget for the project (max. 1 page)
- CV of PI (max. 1 page)
- CV(s) of named scientist(s) to be funded by IDA (max. 1 page for each candidate)
- Report on previous projects for which the PI has received IDA funding since 2004 (max. 1 page)

**Applications will be considered at any time, but applications submitted before 20 July 2009 will be favoured.**

Applications should be written in English and addressed to the IDA head, Jens Hjorth, Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Juliane Maries Vej 30, DK-2100 Copenhagen. Applications must be submitted by e-mail to [ida@astro.ku.dk](mailto:ida@astro.ku.dk) as *one attached PDF file*. Any potential applicant is invited to apply irrespective of gender, nationality, race, religion, or ethnic background.

Template proposals are available at [www.astrofysik.dk/content/docs/IDA\\_ALMA.doc](http://www.astrofysik.dk/content/docs/IDA_ALMA.doc) and [www.astrofysik.dk/content/docs/IDA\\_ALMA.tex](http://www.astrofysik.dk/content/docs/IDA_ALMA.tex). Applications not complying with the format and page constraints of the templates will be given lower priority.