

all existing catalogues, hopefully find potential candidates and then resort to MOS spectra. Another useful dimension for identification is time variability on both long and short term timescales, as in the case of AGNs and X/γ-ray pulsars in our Galaxy. Polarimetry, also possible e.g. with EFOSC, on a complete source field, is yet another tool for identifying a

high-energy, nonthermal candidate among normal field stars. This type of work has already been the subject of several programmes approved during the last four years for the ESO 3.6-m and NTT telescopes at La Silla. This has resulted in the successful study of several X/γ-ray source regions, carried out both in imaging/photometry, spectro-

copy (including MOS), polarimetry and time variability.

We are confident that this Key-Programme team has both the observational experience and the organizational capability to fulfil the proposed scientific objectives for the first example of a ground based/high-energy space astronomy programme.

Report on the First ESO/CTIO Workshop: "Bulges of Galaxies"

The first ESO/CTIO Workshop was held on January 16–19, 1990, in La Serena, Chile. The scientific sessions took up 3 days with 2 afternoons reserved for visits to the La Silla and Tololo observatories. The theme of the workshop was "Bulges of Galaxies" and included all aspects of bulge research, both Galactic and in external galaxies.

There were eleven invited and about thirty shorter, contributed papers. A poster session was also provided. The meeting was attended by about 90 scientists from 5 continents. About 30, mainly young participants, were partially supported by the conference funds allowing them to attend and to present contributions.

The proceedings are being edited and

will be published later this year by ESO.

It was a pleasure to work together with our colleagues from CTIO and it was good to hear many positive comments from the participants.

I hope that there will be many more such joint meetings held in Chile and that they may all be as stimulating as this one.

H. E. SCHWARZ, ESO

News About the ESO Exhibition

The travelling ESO Exhibition has a busy time this summer. Last year it was decided to duplicate most of the exhibition items, so that it can be shown in two places at once. This has paid off and both exhibitions are now booked out through most of 1991.

ESO was present, together with its sister organizations CERN, ESA and EMBL, at the "Europa Ricerca" exhibition in Rome, Italy on May 31–June 10. This major presentation of large European science and technology projects was organized by the Italian Chairmanship of Eureka in connection with the VIII Eureka Minister Conference.

If you visit Geneva in Switzerland this summer, don't miss a tour through the new CERN Microcosmos, just installed on the CERN grounds near Meyrin, outside the city. In addition to learning about the smallest particles, you will see beautiful pictures of galaxies and stars in one area of the Microcosmos building. Here the ESO Exhibition is installed until the end of August. It was inaugurated on May 28 by the Directors General of CERN and ESO, Professors Carlo Rubbia and Harry van der Laan.

The "Free University" of Brussels in Belgium will be host to the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) this summer. This is the first time that this venerable American organization meets outside its home country, let on another continent. In recognition of this important event, ESO is

setting up its exhibition at the University from July 17 to 29. There will be public access; more details can be obtained from the organizer, Dr. Chris Sterken,

Free University of Brussels, Astrophysical Institute, Pleinlaan 2, B-1180 Brussels, Belgium.

ESO was pleased to accept an invita-



From the opening ceremony of the Eureka Minister Conference and the exhibition Europa Ricerca – (left to right) the Italian Minister for Universities and Technological Research, A. Ruberti, CEC Vice-President F.M. Pandolfi, ESA Director General R. Lüst and ESO Director General H. van der Laan. Participating in the ceremony were the Italian President, Francesco Cossiga, ministers and high representatives from the Eureka member countries and the EEC, directors general from CERN, EMBL, ESA and ESO as well as delegates to the conference.

tion to present its exhibition at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, from September 26 to October 12. During this period, both the Council of Europe and the European Parliament will meet in this impressive building, situated in a park area near the centre of the Alsatian capital. This exhibition will not be open to the public, but it is expected that it will be visited by about 4000 delegates, media representatives and staff.

Next, ESO will show its face in the second-largest city of Portugal, Porto. The exhibition opens late September in the old steel-and-glass market hall which has recently been transformed into a perfect exhibition site. ESO's presence in Portugal is particularly timely in view of the current efforts to establish closer contacts between Portuguese astronomy and ESO. In mid-November, the exhibition will move on to the capital, Lisboa, where it is expected to stay until the end of the current year. Further information may be obtained from Prof. Teresa Lago, Grupo de Matematica Aplicada, Faculdade de Ciencias, Universidade do Porto, Rue das Taipas 135, P-4000 Porto.

Future exhibition sites include cities in Austria, Norway and Spain, as well as in South America; announcements of dates and sites will be made in the next issues of the *Messenger*.

12th European Regional Astronomy Meeting of the IAU

The preparations for this meeting (see the announcement in *Messenger* 59, p. 25) are proceeding well and the organizers expect a large influx of European astronomers from all geographical areas of the continent. The meeting will start in Davos Kongresszentrum (Switzerland) in the early afternoon of Monday, October 8, 1990 and end around noon on Thursday, October 11, in order to facilitate travel on these days.

All prospective participants who have not already done so, are urged to contact soonest the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee at the following address:

Professor Dr. U.W. Steinlin
Astronomisches Institut der Universität Basel
Venusstrasse 7
CH-4102 Binningen
Switzerland

or by email: EARN: SCHWENGLER@URZ.UNIBAS.CH;
SPAN: CHGATE::YOGI::SCHWENGLER.

Correspondence concerning the scientific organization should be directed to the Chairman of the Scientific Organizing Committee:

Professor Dr. L. Woltjer
Observatoire de Haute-Provence
F-04870 St-Michel l'Observatoire
France

Calendar:

July 15	Registration form to Dr. Steinlin Hotel reservation to Davos Tourist Office
Aug. 15	Abstracts of papers to Dr. Woltjer Fees must be paid to meeting account
Sept. 15	Third Circular with Final Programme
Oct. 8	Meeting opens in Davos: abstract book available

New Videos from ESO

Three new video films have recently become available from ESO:

- "Window to the Universe": A film about ESO made by the BBC. 24 min. Available in English, French, German and Italian.
- "The First NTT Images": A presentation of the first images from the NTT, obtained during the commissioning phase; made by the ESO Information Service. 9 min. Only available in English.
- "The NTT Inauguration": A summary of the main events and speeches during the inauguration of the NTT on February 6, 1990, in Garching and at La Silla. 24 min. Only available in English.

The videos are available on VHS, S-VHS, MII and Betacam on two cassettes; one with "Window to the Universe", while "First Images" and "NTT Inauguration" are on a common cassette. The price per cassette is 70.- DM. Orders should be placed with the ESO Information Service (address on last page). Please note that the delivery time will be about 4 weeks.

European Group of Astronomical Librarians (EGAL)

In July 1988 IAU Colloquium 110, entitled "Library and Information Services in Astronomy" was held in Washington D.C. This was attended by 120 people from 26 different countries, including several European librarians, most of whom met each other for the first time. Inspired by the stimulating talks and discussions, and the desire to transmit the "spirit of Washington" to other colleagues who were not able to attend, the idea of EGAL was born during the closing stages of the meeting.

On our return Suzanne Laloë (Institut d'Astrophysique, Paris) and myself distributed a report of the meeting together with a letter proposing the formation of an informal group of European librarians working in astronomical observatories and institutes. The response was encouraging and we decided to go ahead with our basic idea of distributing a newsletter 2 or 3 times a year and publishing a directory of names and addresses, telephone, telex, telefax numbers and e-mail addresses, plus a brief

description of each library. The main aim is to foster informal cooperation and communication between librarians in all European countries, with a special emphasis on strengthening and improving links with our Eastern European colleagues. The possibility of also acting as a pressure group, for instance when problems with publishers or suppliers occur, is not excluded.

Initially about 70 librarians were contacted and replies were received from about 40. The first EGAL Bulletin, No. 0, a trial number, was mailed in May 1989 to all the librarians on our original mailing list. This brought in some more replies and we compiled the first version of the Directory. This was distributed, together with EGAL Bulletin No. 1, in October 1989, again to all the persons on our original list. It is hoped that EGAL Bulletin will become a forum for news, opinions, descriptions of libraries and routines, queries for help and information. Many observatory and institute libraries are relatively small and isolated.