Applications are invited for the position of Resident Astronomer at the Canada France Hawaii Telescope in Hawaii. The appointment will be for an initial period of three years and is renewable. The position is supported by Canada. CFHT is a 3.6 m telescope located at the summit of Mauna Kea that is scientifically competitive with 8-10m telescopes. CFHT routinely observes more than 90% of its highly ranked PI programs making it a very efficient telescope. We recently completed the CFHT Legacy Survey, an ambitious 500 night imaging survey spread over 5 years, which produces high impact scientific results. Four large programs with high scientific return potential are underway at the CFHT. Two programs, Magnetic Protostars and Planets (MaPP) and Magnetism in Massive Stars (MiMeS) use the unique properties of the high resolution spectro-polarimeter ESPaDOnS while two other programs, The Pan-Andromeda Archaeological Survey (PandAS) and The Next Generation Virgo Cluster Survey (NGVS) use the wide field capabilities and sensitivity of the imaging camera MegaCam.

CFHT is now operating 3 of its main instruments in Queue Scheduling Observing (QSO) mode. Megacam, a wide-field 340 Mpix CCD mosaic camera, WIRCam, a 4kx4k/20'x20' wide-field mosaic infrared camera and ESPaDOnS, a fiber-fed spectro-polarimeter, are used in the QSO mode for more than 95% of the total available time each semester. CFHT is also in the process of automating the telescope. Remote operations are scheduled to start by the end of 2010. New instrument development is also underway at CFHT. 'IMAKA, a high image quality wide-field camera, SPIROU, a near-infrared high resolution spectro-polarimeter and SITELLE, a wide-field Imaging Fourier Transform Spectrometer are being considered as future instruments at CFHT.

CFHT is particularly interested in attracting excellent scientists capable of guiding development or operations in the domain of wide-field optical and infrared imaging or high resolution spectro-polarimetry. Scientists with interest in other areas of applicable to CFHT, including adaptive optics, infrared instrumentation and high-resolution spectroscopy are also encouraged to apply. Potential applicants should consult the CFHT Web site for more information on current CFHT instruments and activities: http://www.cfht.hawaii.edu/.

Resident Astronomers have approximately one third of their time available for personal research and are expected to become active users of CFHT. They have access to discretionary time on the Telescope each semester and have a research budget that is used to cover research-related travel and other expenses.

Resident Astronomers are assigned QSO-coordination duties and, occasionally, may have to perform service observing or instrument support at the summit. They may also serve as project or instrument scientist for the development of instrumental or software projects. Resident Astronomers participate in the training of Service Observers and Remote Observers and perform various other tasks, including outreach activities, associated with the scientific life at CFHT.

Minimum requirements are a Ph.D. in astronomy or physics and observational experience with research using optical telescopes. Our preference is for individuals with previous post-doctoral experience and some experience in astronomical instrumentation or software. Candidates without previous post-doc experience but showing definitive potential for duties involved in operational issues of CFHT will also be considered. The individual selected must pass a physical exam certifying ability to work at 4200 meters altitude.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Competitive benefit package and relocation assistance are also provided.

Applications must include a detailed curriculum vitae, a list of publications, a statement of research interests including those particularly appropriate for CFHT and a statement addressing their experience.
and aptitude for the CFHT support tasks. Applicants should also provide contact information of three individuals who can provide letters of recommendation. For more information contact Dr. Daniel Devost (devost@cfht.hawaii.edu). Applications should be received before 15 November 2009, and addressed to:

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corporation
Attention: Resident Astronomer Search
65-1238 Mamalahoa Hwy
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743 - USA