

**Department of Physics and Astronomy**  
**Open-Rank Faculty Position**  
**Observational Astronomy**

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The faculty of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of South Carolina, Columbia campus, invites applications for a 9-month, full-time open-rank faculty position in observational astronomy to begin August 16, 2025. This position is part of an effort to grow the astronomy research in the department and to establish an astronomy major.

The successful candidate must have a PhD in observational astronomy, astrophysics, or physics with at least two years of postdoctoral experience by the start date of employment and a commitment to excellence in teaching. We welcome applications from candidates working in all areas of observational astronomy, especially galactic and extragalactic astronomy.

The successful candidate will be expected to teach undergraduate and graduate courses, build a strong externally funded research program in observational astronomy, and interact with the existing astronomy research group in the department. The department has an active research program in areas such as nearby and distant galaxies, extragalactic magnetism, interstellar/circumgalactic/intergalactic medium, cosmic dust, galaxy evolution, and quasars/active galactic nuclei.

At the University of South Carolina, we strive to cultivate an inclusive environment that is open, welcoming, and supportive of individuals of all backgrounds. We recognize diversity in our workforce is essential to providing academic excellence and critical to our sustainability. The University is committed to eliminating barriers created by institutional discrimination through accountability and continuous process improvement. We celebrate the diverse voices, perspectives, and experiences of our employees.

From the Upstate to the Lowcountry, the University of South Carolina system is transforming the lives of South Carolinians through the impact of our eight institutions and 20 locations throughout the state. More than 50,000 students are enrolled at one of eight institutions, including the research campus in Columbia and comprehensive four-year universities in Aiken, Upstate, and Beaufort. In addition, our Palmetto College campuses in Salkehatchie, Union, Lancaster, and Sumter enable students to earn associate or bachelor's degrees through a combination of in-person, online, or blended learning. All of our system institutions place strong emphasis on service — helping to build healthier, more educated communities in South Carolina and beyond.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy at USC, a Carnegie Research 1 University, consists of 30 faculty members and is currently growing. Our main research areas are astronomy/astrophysics, condensed matter physics, nuclear physics, particle physics, and quantum physics. Further information about the department may be found at [physics.sc.edu](https://physics.sc.edu).

*The University of South Carolina is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. Women, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, disability, ethnicity, familial status, gender (including transgender), gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, childbirth, recovery therefrom or related medical conditions, breastfeeding), race, religion (including religious dress and grooming practices), sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other bases under federal, state, local law, or regulations.*

**How to Apply**

All applicants **must** apply online at USCJobs at <https://uscjobs.sc.edu/postings/175066>. Applications must include: (1) a cover letter, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) list of publications, (4) research plan, (5) teaching statement, and (6) the names and contact information, including email address and phone number, of at least 3 references. References will be contacted to provide signed letters of recommendation. Review of complete applications will begin on October 16, 2024, and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about this position may be directed to [apetrov@sc.edu](mailto:apetrov@sc.edu) and [kulkarni@sc.edu](mailto:kulkarni@sc.edu).