

Goals of the Visitor and Linkage Program of ICSP (VLPI)

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Indian Centre for Space Physics (ICSP) is geographically located at a prominent locale in the city of Kolkata, 80 meters from the Jyotirindra Nandi metro station on the New Garia-Airport route (partly operating now), right on the Eastern Metropolitan Bypass, away from the hustle and bustle of the city center.



Main building on E.M. Bypass

Details of our facilities are in “**Looking Back**” – A Silver Jubilee Special Issue published this year. A link of the soft copy is <http://csp.res.in/lookingback/index.html> (both original and compressed version). Our Optical Observatory is located on a 0.3 Acre campus at Sitapur, W. Medinipur. It has the largest research quality telescope (0.61m) in Eastern India. The ICSP Stratospheric Balloon Facility (ISBF), on a 2 Acre land, is the second in India after TIFR and is located at Chandrapur, Birbhum.

Our facilities: Our main auditorium (JNC Hall) is of 240 capacity. ICSP has several class rooms. The guest house Chandra can accommodate about 60 conference participants. The Sitapur campus guest house Dhruva can accommodate 100 school students, or about 40 conference participants. A similar guest house is being built at ISBF.

Details about our faculties, departments, students may be found in our web page: csp.res.in and also in the “Looking Back” book.

ICSP scientists have produced 50 PhD students. It is a Sister organization of Calcutta University and Gour Banga University. It also has signed MoUs with several Universities, colleges and institutions around the world.

Being a small strategically located autonomous institute, ICSP has interest not only to carry out independent research activities, but also to collaborate with scientists all over India and abroad. It wishes to be a hub of intense activities by proposing to have a pool of research scientists as its honorary faculty (HF) members and also Student Associates (SA) and Post-doctoral Associates (PDA) who may like to be associated with ICSP for the following reasons:

(a) Joint PhD program with ICSP (JPPI): There could be post-MSc qualified students (i) who

are interested to work with certain scientist but unable to join that scientist's home institute due to restrictions there or (ii) who are associated with ICSP and yet has interest in the topics not extensively researched on at ICSP. If considerable research work is completed, these faculties can be a joint supervisors along with his/her ICSP counterpart. Such students will register at local Universities in Kolkata Usual rules of the University to declare Honorary Faculties as recognized supervisor will apply.

(b) Hosting Conference at ICSP (HCI): Sometimes several Honorary faculties working at diverse National and International Institutes/Universities/colleges may like to get together at a common place for collaboration, Organizing workshop or Conferences. ICSP can be the Venue of these events. An LOC will be from ICSP which will handle the whole conference program, registration, communicating with the participants with the main organizers in the loop. The auditorium will limit the number participants of such program to 240. Several lecture halls with capacity from 30 to 100 are present at ICSP to have Parallel Sessions. About 60 participants can stay at the Chandra guest house on campus. Rest of the participants can stay in nearby hundreds of hotels on the EM Bypass. ICSP faculties may also initiate such conferences with the help of the Honorary faculties. Thus with a large auditorium and numerous lecture halls which could be used for parallel sessions, ICSP may host major conferences, capacity building workshops, with National and International colleagues. For smaller conferences of 40-60 nationals, especially those initiated by ICSP faculties nominal running cost may be required from the conference fund for accommodation, auditorium, lecture halls, in one of its three campuses, depending on the topic of the meeting. This is often enough for hosting small conferences and workshops at ICSP.

(c) Visits accompanied by Students (VAS): Honorary faculties may also visit ICSP with student Associates if there is a overlap of interests with ICSP scientists or students so that research work may be completed during the visits. Several student associates of ICSP from several institutes may work with any of the Honorary faculties and/or ICSP scientists and ICSP will provide a platform to work together at its campus and to facilitate such interactions.

(d) Student to Student interactions (STSI): This is useful to forge long term collaborations where student Associates of other Institutes may like to visit ICSP to interact with students of ICSP for collaborative purpose. Of course, consents of the supervisors are essential. However, in this case, the Honorary faculty need not visit ICSP but send the student Associates to interact and carry out research activities.

(e) Retired Honorary Faculties' Programs (RHFP): Often Honorary faculties require a peaceful and quiet Office space for work after retirements to complete books and major reviews, literature etc. ICSP will assist with administrative support, office space and accommodation to such workers in case they can bring fellowships to obtain financial supports. Similarly Honorary Faculties after retirement may also offer certificate courses at ICSP on interesting theoretical and observational/instrumentation courses.

There could be many other ways to make the program fruitful. Suggestions in this regard are also welcome.

Support from ICSP:

i) ICSP will not be able to provide any direct financial assistance except the local accommodation, auditorium, lecture halls etc. In exceptional cases some 'Per Diem' may be given to student Associates for food.

ii) The Honorary faculties may spend up to 15 days in one year which may be split into parts if

needed.

iii) The faculties and associates are encouraged to be at ICSP around the time some conference is being held either organized by them or us or jointly and take part in giving talks/series of lectures/organize separate workshop etc.

iv) There will be Student Associates (SA) and Post-doctoral Associates (PDA). These associates must have official affiliations. They need to apply to ICSP using the application form, kept on our web site which are duly forwarded by their supervisors.

v) Honorary faculties will have specific designations (e.g., Senior Professor [Hony]; Associate Prof. [Hony] etc.) depending on their current designation. Initially invitation will be made to some. However, those whom we might have overlooked may please write to us with an updated biodata and writing a few sentences expressing interest.

vi) For optimal usage of the facilities, we will be concentrating on subjects in which ICSP faculties may have some overlap. Naturally, the list will grow as our faculties increase in numbers. Presently, the experts of the following broad categories will be encouraged:

1. Black Hole Astrophysics; Observation; Theory; Satellite data fitting; Gravitational waves from binary mergers, Multi-messenger astronomy.
2. Monte-Carlo simulations, evolution of composition of upper atmosphere, ionospheric science, radio propagation through ionosphere; effects of high energy phenomena on radio propagation
3. Observational Astronomy: Variable stars, Exo-planets, Star Clusters, companions of black holes
4. Astrochemistry of pre-biotic molecules, Astrobiology, ALMA observations and their interpretations etc.

Application FORMAT for the Honorary Faculties/Student(Postdoc) Associates of ICSP

Name:

Affiliation with address:

Contact Info (email/phone):

Designation:

Possible date of Superannuation/completion of the Degree- in case of students)/ending of Tenure (in case of Post-Doctoral fellows):

Specialization (200 words):

Attach a Recent Bio-data

Any near or future plan to visit ICSP and possible purposes:

Note: If the application was approved or an offer was already made, we require an NOC from the responsible authority of the Candidate's Institute before we can put his/her name on our website. While work done during ICSP must be acknowledged in published works, the ICSP affiliation can be used if we have NOC. The NOC format on a letter head can be as follows:

*I certify that Mr./Dr./Prof. XYZ (Full Name) is working at our Organization as a ABC (Post goes here) since **/**/**** (Date goes here). We have no objection if Mr./Dr./Prof. XYZ (Full Name) accepts an Honorary [Senior Professor/Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor/Scientist/Student Associate/Postdoctoral Associate] of Indian Centre for Space Physics (ICSP) which was offered to him. If his/her name appears at the website of ICSP, his/her designations at our Organization must be mentioned as well.*