

# The Bernoulli Fellowships

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(15th April 2016)



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The Center for Space and Habitability (CSH) at the University of Bern, Switzerland, has created an international fellowship program known as the Bernoulli Fellowship, which aims to identify and hire young, dynamic and intellectually independent researchers at the postdoctoral stage of their careers. **Each Bernoulli Fellowship is held for a duration of 4 years and the key intention is to formalize interactions between the CSH and its international partner institutes or universities.** To be internationally competitive, fellowships have to generally be at least 3 years in duration, because this is the standard contract length offered by the NASA prize fellowships (the Hubble, Einstein and Sagan Fellowships). Fellowships with durations of 4 to 5 years are rare in the scientific community and are only offered by a few major universities (e.g., the Bahcall Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, and the Kavli Fellowship at Cambridge University are both 5 years in duration). Such long-term fellowships are regarded as prestigious honors awarded only to outstanding young academics.

To emphasize the diverse nature of this Fellowship, we have named it after the famed Bernoulli family. With its origins in Belgium, the Bernoulli family settled in Basel, Switzerland, in the 17th century and produced a line of descendents who became mathematicians, physicists and astronomers. The work of the Bernoullis led to notable contributions to mathematics, statistics, physics and economics that endure to this day. This diverse body of work reflects the interdisciplinary goals of the CSH and its partners.

Each Bernoulli Fellow will spend 2 years at the CSH, followed by 2 years at the partner institute or university (or vice versa). The salary of the Bernoulli Fellow will be paid at the local rate by the host entity. For the inaugural call for Bernoulli Fellows, the CSH has secured partnerships with **Oxford University**, via **Prof. Dr. Raymond Pierrehumbert**, who is a climate scientist and the Halley Professor of Physics, and the **Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA)**, via **Prof. Dr. Thomas Henning**, who is one of the MPIA Directors. Profs. Drs. Pierrehumbert and Henning will join the CSH Steering Committee, consisting of Profs. Drs. Willy Benz (astrophysics), Peter Wurz (planetary science), Niklaus Kaempfer (atmospheric science), Klaus Mezger (geology) and Oliver Muehleemann (biochemistry), as well as the CSH Director, in shortlisting and selecting the Bernoulli Fellows.

The call for the Bernoulli Fellows will be made in October and November 2016 with an application **deadline of 30th November 2016**. It will be advertised in the American Astronomical Society (AAS) Job Register and other forums. A shortlist will be made in December 2016 and the shortlisted candidates will be invited to the University of Bern in January 2017 to attend the CSH Symposium.