

Dear colleagues,

I'm contacting you on behalf of the Darwin science team, which is proposing an infrared interferometer (Darwin) to characterise Earth-like extrasolar planets and perform general astrophysics as an answer to ESA's call for missions. You can find in attachment a draft of the proposal that we intend to submit to ESA on June 29th (the draft is also available here:
http://www-laog.obs.ujf-grenoble.fr/~oabsil/Darwin/Darwin_proposal_draft.pdf).

In case you find the Darwin science case appealing and would like to support this proposal, please let me know it **before June 22nd** so that your name can be added to the list of "supporting proposers" and so that I can keep you informed of future Darwin-related activities. Please also specify which of the following four "Working Groups" are concerning you:

- Astronomy,
- Planetology,
- Biology,
- Instrument / data reduction.

In case you have major concerns or comments on the current version of the proposal, do not hesitate to contact me.

Could I ask you to kindly forward this message to all interested people within your institutes/groups?

With my best regards,
Olivier Absil.

PS: Emmanuelle, could you forward this email to the members of the Astrobiology contact group?

Olivier ABSIL Marie Curie IEF Post-doctoral Fellow Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de l'Observatoire de Grenoble Université Joseph Fourier Tel: +33-(0)4-76.63.55.09 414 rue de la Piscine Fax: +33-(0)4-76.44.88.21 F-38400 Saint Martin d'Hères (France)

-- Veronique Dehant Royal Observatory of Belgium 3 avenue Circulaire B 1180 Brussels Tel: +32 2 373 0266 GSM: +32 475 57 59 53 Fax: +32 2 374 98 22