

NASA- Nordic Summer school “Water, ice and the Origin of Life in the Universe” in Iceland

The NASA Astrobiology Institute and the Nordic Astrobiology Network (hyperlink: www.nordicastrobiology.net) will organise a summer school with the above –mentioned theme in Iceland from 29 June to 13 July 2009 for students and post-docs from astrobiology-related subjects (biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, geosciences etc.) The event will consist of three parts:

- **Lectured introductory course**
- **Excursions to different places in Iceland of astrobiological interest (hot springs, glaciers, geysers, Mars-like landscapes)**
- **Lab course on the geochemistry and extremophile population of hot spring water (no previous experience in microbiological lab work and field research should be needed for that part)**

Around 40 students will be able to participate. Accepted participants from the US and the Nordic countries (including the Baltic States and Northwestern Russia) will be offered accommodation, meals participation, study material and the whole excursion and teaching programme for free as well as some reimbursement for travel expenses. Also, funding is available for a limited number of participants from other countries. Participants from Europe will be able awarded 4 ECTS points for the summer school, and the organisers attempt to arrange credits for US students too.

Further information about the summer school and instructions about the application procedure are available on its website (hyperlink: <http://www.astrobiology.net/Iceland2009>).