

**SECOND CIRCULAR**

**"Exploring the Universe: Near Earth space science to extragalactic astronomy"**

S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata (INDIA),

14-17 November, 2018.

Dear Colleagues,

We are glad to let you know that the preparation for the conference is in full swing. We provide you with further details.

(A) Please visit the website for details:

<http://newweb.bose.res.in/Conferences/EXPUNIV2018/>

(B) Registration is now OPEN. Please go to the registration page.

(C) IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Registration deadline for foreign participants: July 31, 2018

Registration deadline for Indian participants: August 31, 2018

Abstract submission deadline: August 31, 2018 (for all)

Intimation of abstract acceptance and travel support by: September 15, 2018

Conference begins: November 14, 2018

Let us emphasize as in the FIRST CIRCULAR that though the Title of the Conference is quite general, there are a few special focused topics. The idea is to make the participants, almost fifty percent of whom are expected to be the graduate students, aware of the modern research areas starting from the balloon borne exploration of near space, to satellite study of compact objects, to star formation, stellar evolution, and physics of and around compact objects. Another exciting topic which is being explored in ALMA era is Astrochemistry and Astrobiology. We expect about thirty experts in these topics to give overall reviews in these topics.

One of the main topics of the meeting would be theoretical and observational aspects of compact objects such as black holes, neutron stars and white dwarfs. A clear enunciation of the current outstanding problems in accretion onto black holes would be formulated and a clear path for future research work would be drawn with an aim to measure the most fundamental properties of black holes and that of the accretion flows. At the same time, the results of analysis of the data from several satellites, such as RXTE, INTEGRAL, XMM-Newton, NuStar, AstroSat, Swift etc. will be presented.

Similarly, study of ALMA data shedding light on Astrochemistry and formation of biomolecules in star forming region would be another major topic. Grain and gas chemistry, formation of complex molecules in the presence of grains, and, indeed, novae outbursts and formation of grains themselves would be reviewed as well.

Though Ionospheric research is considered to be a very old subject, its emergence as a tool to study earthquake prediction will get some focus. Treating the Earth as a gigantic detector and how that gives the spectra of solar flares would be discussed as well.

We apologize, in case you receive more than one copy of this invitation.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Soumen Mondal (convenor)

Banibrata Mukhopadhyay (convenor)

A.R. Rao (co-convenor)