The Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute, AEI) in Hannover, Germany, announces the opening of up to

**two PhD positions**

in theoretical gravitational physics and cosmology, nominally starting September 1, 2019.

Successful candidates will pursue research in the newly established Lise Meitner Research Group “Gravitational Theory and Cosmology,” led by Anna Ijjas. PhD theses may cover a variety of topics ranging from mathematical relativity to theoretical and numerical cosmology. PhD students will be invited to join the multi-national "Origins of the Universe" Initiative of the Simons Foundation (New York, NY, USA) and participate in all program activities including the opportunity to regularly visit Princeton University (Princeton, NJ, USA).

Successful applicants will enroll in the International Max Planck Research School on Gravitational Wave Astronomy and conduct their research at the AEI in Hannover, receiving their PhD degree from the Leibniz University Hannover. The expected duration of the PhD program is three years; it can be extended to four years in exceptional cases. Payment is based on the Collective Wage Agreement for the Civil Service (TVöD). PhD students receive compensation corresponding to approx. 2,000 EUR netto (after taxes) per month, plus health insurance, unemployment insurance, etc.

The Max Planck Society aims to increase the participation of women in research. Therefore, applications by women are particularly welcome. Handicapped individuals are especially encouraged to apply. These applicants will be given priority in the case of same qualifications. We handle applications electronically, observing the German data privacy laws. By sending the application, the applicant declares his or her consent.

Candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Applications including a CV and a brief (1-page) research statement should be submitted by email to verwaltung@aei.mpg.de. The application deadline is July 15th, 2019. Candidates should also arrange for two letters of recommendation sent to verwaltung@aei.mpg.de by the referees. Applicants are required to have a Masters degree by the start of the PhD program.

Please send all inquiries to Anna Ijjas at aijjas@princeton.edu.