

PRESS RELEASE

## **ASTRON- Netherlands foundation for Research in Astronomy**

This is a joint press release from ASTRON and JIVE. We apologise if you receive this press release more than once.

Monday August 20 2007

---

## **Huib Jan van Langevelde new JIVE director**

*As per September 1 2007 Dr.Huib Jan van Langevelde will be the new director of the Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe (JIVE), hosted by ASTRON in Dwingeloo (NL).*



JIVE is the central institute of the European *Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI)* Network in which 17 telescopes in 11 countries collaborate, to produce astronomical images with unsurpassed resolution. Huib Jan van Langevelde (44) has been a member of the JIVE staff for 12 years, holding various positions. Recently he has managed various international projects related to astronomical user software and computing. His astronomical research focuses on the circumstellar matter around young and old stars, with an emphasis on astrophysical masers.

Science councils from 7 countries, amongst which NWO in the Netherlands, collaborate in JIVE. The institute is hosted by ASTRON in Dwingeloo. It serves as the central facility of the European VLBI Network (EVN) for data processing and user support. It also takes the lead in technological innovations. A considerable fraction of the JIVE staff is actively involved in astronomical research. JIVE has a very international character, with 13 nationalities represented amongst its 35 staff members.

During his time at the Sterrewacht Leiden, where he got his PhD, van Langevelde specialised in radio and millimetre interferometry. Subsequently, he moved to New Mexico (USA) to work on the American VLBI telescope. He returned to the Netherlands to take charge of the scientific commissioning of the new central data processor of the EVN at JIVE in Dwingeloo. Since 1998 he has held various management positions at JIVE, first in the daily operations of the data processor, later in EVN-wide software projects. At the same time he carried out a variety of innovative astronomical experiments, like measuring distances to maser stars through extremely accurate astrometry. He is an associate professor at Leiden University where he is involved in various scientific projects, as well as new millimetre interferometry initiatives (ALMA, eSMA). Van Langevelde is also member of a large number of national and international committees on astronomical instrumentation and computing.

Van Langevelde has filled the director position of JIVE ad interim from February 2007, when the former director, Mike Garrett, became the general director of ASTRON. As the new director of JIVE he has also assumed the leadership of an international project, subsidized by the EC, aimed at implementing an e-VLBI network in which the remote telescopes are connected in real-time through optical fibre links. JIVE is looking at new ways to take further advantage of this new

technology in order to boost the sensitivity of the European VLBI facility, including the establishment of a new correlator facility in Dwingeloo (NL).

---

For more information: JIVE, Huib Jan van Langevelde, Oude Hoogeveensedijk 4, 7991 PD, Dwingeloo, the Netherlands, 0521-596500, [langevelde@jive.nl](mailto:langevelde@jive.nl), mobile: 06-21201419