**Department of Computational Sciences - Open Week**

Sta. Maria Tonantzintla, Puebla, México

**About the Open Week**

This open week is intended for attracting national and international prospective students willing to pursue their MSc or PhD degrees with us. During the week, a number of activities have been programmed including lab tours, demos, interviews with the researchers, seminars, etc so that prospective student can find out more about the department life. We hope to show those prospective students with a hint of the life at INAOE and show them some of the research projects going on in the department. Please, read below for further details about the Open Week.

This guide provides some advice and instructions which you might find useful for preparing your trip and stay.

**How to get to INAOE’s campus?**

The National Institute of Astrophysics, Optics and Electronics (INAOE) is located in the small town of Sta. Maria Tonantzintla or simply Tonantzintla, about 16km from Puebla, which is Mexico’s 4th largest city. Postal address is:

Calle Luis Enrique Erro No. 1

Santa María Tonantzintla, Puebla

C.P. 72840

Website: <http://www.inaoep.mx>

Phone: (+52 222) 2663100

Ext. 8209 (Office of Dr. Eduardo Morales Manzanares, Head of Dept.)

Ext. 8302 (Computaional Science Department, Brenda Cercantes)

If you are travelling from Mexico City by **car**, leave the motorway and get into Periférico Ecologico, the belt highway for Puebla. Once in Periférico Ecológico take the exit to “Atlixco Libre”. Then continue by the federal road to Atlixco until you reach diversion to Acatepec. Take that exit and turn right at the church. Then follow straight ahead until Tonantzintla. You’ll reach a sharp curve with another church right in the corner on your right side. Follow the curve, and you’ll get to Luis Enrique Erro street about 200 meters ahead. Take the street to the right to get to INAOE. If you will be staying at INAOE’s bungalows, then you might leave your car in the parking. Otherwise, you will have to leave your car on the visits parking which is yet another 600 meters further ahead continuing by the road you were approaching to INAOE.

If you are travelling by **bus** or **coach** from other cities, you should get your ticket to either Puebla’s main coach station (CAPU) or in particular, if you are travelling from Mexico city and the airport you might also arrive at the small terminal located in the street 4-Poniente (<http://www.estrellaroja.com.mx/english/index.php>). Whatever the case, take a controlled or safe taxi for which you pay in advance at the terminal. It should cost between $110 and $150 pesos depending on the rate (night rates are higher than day rates), and it takes about 30 to 40 minutes to get to INAOE. Indicate the driver that you are going to INAOE or “el observatorio”, as it is also (more often) known, in Tonantzintla. Alternatively, upon arriving at CAPU you might also opt for a local bus. Walk to the local bus terminal within CAPU and look for the route “Chipilo via Tonantzintla”. Price should be about $10 pesos and the trip takes about 45-60 minutes. In this case, you will have to tell the bus driver to stop at INAOE or “el observatorio” when you are close to Luis Enrique Erro’s corner (see access by car).

If you are already in Puebla, you might also take the **metrobus** towards Tlaxcalancingo. Get off on the very last stop and change to a **feeding line** to Tonantzintla.

**There is no public transport to or from Tonantzintla between 9pm and 6am (only taxi).**

You might find a map of INAOE’s main campus location here:

<http://www.inaoep.mx/mapa_acceso.php>

**What to do upon arriving at INAOE?**

*If your attendance is funded*: Students attending the open week and funded by INAOE will be hosted at INAOE’s bungalows. You might arrive from the day before. Please proceed to the main gates where you can find security guards. Introduce yourself as a participant to the open week and they will give you an envelope with your name and the key to the bungalow. Please be aware that accommodation may be shared with other students, so if you are not arriving together with your room mates it may be the case that they are already in.

The bungalows are located just a few meters “before” the gates; you should have passed them as you come through Luis Enrique Erro street.

*If your attendance is not funded*: Students attending the open week but who are covering their own expenses, are responsible for booking their accommodation. There are several hotels nearby at affordable prices. Feel free to choose the one that suits your needs, and check in at your convenience.

**Registration**

On Monday, the first day of the event, you will find the registration module located beside the security room near the main gates. Then, you will be given any material for the Open Week.

*If your attendance is funded*: **Fill the form for accepting the support for attending the Open Week.**

Here you can find a map of INAOE main campus:

<http://www.inaoep.mx/mapa_instalaciones.php>

**Important things to consider during your stay**

Spring in Puebla is warm with morning and late evening temperatures around 8° to 12° Celsius but midday temperatures rising up to 25°-30° Celsius.

Those staying at the bungalows must abide by the rules:

* If you are in an individual bungalow, you’ll receive an envelope with your key which you might keep during your stay, and you are responsible for it. If you are in a shared bungalow, there might be two or three keys shared among all those in the same bungalow. If you are the last to leave the bungalow, please ensure that you leave one of the keys at security.
* At the end of your stay you must return your key to security guards in the same envelope that it was given to you upon arrival.
* Assignment of bungalows has been made according to a number of criteria. Please note that **no request for reassignment will be considered**.
* You shall return the bungalow in the same condition that you find it.
* **Tap water is NOT drinkable**.

All bungalows are equipped with kitchenette and refrigerator. Tonantzintla is a small town and hasn’t got a market or supermarket. There are only a few small shops and inns where you can get some food for breakfast or dinner. Alternatively, you can get to Cholula, only a few minutes away using public transport, but remember that it stops at 9pm. Afterwards, you can still get a taxi. Whether in a shop or restaurant, if you need a bill please let the keeper know in advance.

*If your attendance is funded*: INAOE canteen or dining hall is just beside the parking and bungalows. It offers breakfast during week days from 8:00am to 11:00am.

**Safety tips**

* Avoid walking alone during the night in general, and in particular in streets lacking illumination and/or lonely.
* Taxis do not have meters. You have to negotiate the rate in advance. In this sense, it is preferable that you avoid getting on a taxi on the street.
* Beware of food hygiene if you decide to eat on ambulant street stall.
* Do not show up (or show off) watches, jewellery, mobile phones, etc.

**What to bring for the open week?**

It is highly recommended that you bring your own **laptop**. On your registration you will be provided with details for within campus internet access. Please consider that internet signal reception at bungalows is often weak.

On the lecture theatre there are a small number of sockets if you need to charge your computer. If you come from abroad, you might need an electrical adapter that you can get at the airport or shops of electric material.

Notebook, pen and/or pencil and other stationary material that you consider that you might need is also your responsibility.

**What does the Open Week include?**

All participants may attend the talks, workshops and demos indicated in the programme. On the last day of the Open Week you will be given a diploma of participation.

One of the nights as indicated in the programme there will be dinner for all participants (whether funded or not). This will be in-campus; information on how to get to the dinner venue will be provided during the reception.

Please find further details in the website:

<http://ccc.inaoep.mx/~openweek2015/>

**Final remarks**

The Open Week is an opportunity not only to learn about our department but also to networking. Lecturers and students will be willing to talk to you and some of them are likely to share similar research interests. You may want to take advantage of the breaks and social events to approach them to ask about any aspect of living and studying at INAOE.

**Most important of all: enjoy the Open Week!**