First announcement of the CASPER 2011 Workshop

10-14 October 2011, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), Pune, India

This year's workshop of CASPER (Collaboration for Astronomy Signal Processing and Electronics Research) will be held at NCRA, Pune in India, from 10 to 14 October 2011. Typically attended by about 100 international astronomy digital signal processing experts, the annual meeting of the global collaboration traditionally includes a review of the past year's accomplishments, future plans for development of new instruments and tools, a review of the latest global trends, and hands-on training for old hands and new recruits alike. The mission of CASPER is to streamline, simplify, and thereby accelerate the design of astronomy instrumentation by promoting design reuse through the development of platform-independent, open-source hardware and software.

Historically CASPER DSP hardware has been FPGA-based, but in the recent years, CASPER has explored other options also, such as GPU computing, fast multi-core CPUs, and heterogenous computing that exploits the best of FPGAs and these new techniques. As a result, the annual CASPER workshops have become an excellent forum for fruitful exchange of ideas as well as for learning about the various techniques.

This year's CASPER workshop will be hosted by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, and will be held in the city of Pune, located about 180 km south-east of Mumbai, in India. A day long optional visit to NCRA's Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) is planned on Saturday, 15th October, immediately after the workshop ends. October is a particular pleasant time to visit India, and we look forward to an enthusiastic participation from members and supporters of the CASPER community, including newcomers wishing to join.

Formal registration for the workshop will open shortly. There will be a registration fee of $50 for students, and $150 for others. We expect to have some amount of funds available to support travel costs for students.

We look forward to seeing you in Pune this October.

Yashwant Gupta, on behalf of the SOC.