



Cosmochemistry – Astrobiology Postdoctoral Fellow – Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawai'i Manoa

The Institute for Astronomy (IfA) in collaboration with the Hawai'i Institute for Geophysics and Planetology (HIGP) invites applications for two Post-doctoral Fellows with interests in cosmochemistry and isotopic studies of extra-terrestrial samples to join an exciting interdisciplinary group, the University of Hawai'i's NASA Astrobiology Institute (<http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/UHNAI/>). The Fellowship will be available in early 2009 upon availability of funds. The Fellowship is for three years assuming satisfactory progress and continued availability of funds. Fellows will receive a stipend of approximately \$4,800 per month, a small relocation allowance and basic research costs.

The UH lead team maintains an innovative and multi-disciplinary research environment linking astronomical, biological microbiological, chemical and geological sciences to investigate the origin, history and distribution of water and its relation to life in the Universe. The program centers around interactions with an interdisciplinary group of postdoctoral fellows. We are seeking individuals to participate in one or more of the following areas: 1) Origin of the Earth's water: this project involves measuring D/H ratios in samples from the Hawaiian and Icelandic hot spots by ion microprobe; 2) Experimental studies of hydrogen concentrations in nominally anhydrous minerals; 3) Studies of the timing of aqueous alteration in primitive chondritic meteorites using ^{26}Al , ^{53}Mn , and ^{60}Fe radiochronometers; and 4) Using oxygen isotopes to understand the processes involved in aqueous activity on meteorite parent bodies.

Minimum qualifications include a Ph.D. in geology, isotope geochemistry, physics, or chemistry, a record of research in the field of expertise as demonstrated by publications, previous experience with microanalysis or mass spectrometry of natural samples. Experience with extraterrestrial samples microbeam techniques such as scanning electron microscopy, electron microprobe microanalysis, and/or secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) is desirable. Education and public outreach is an integral part of the Astrobiology program and experience with or interest in E/PO will be considered positively in an application.

Further details about the cosmochemistry research projects being carried out within the UH Astrobiology effort can be obtained from Dr. Gary R. Huss (ghuss@higp.hawaii.edu) or Dr. Alexander Krot (sasha@higp.hawaii.edu).

Questions about the UH Astrobiology lead team's program may be directed to Dr. K. J. Meech (meech@ifa.hawaii.edu).

To Apply, please submit the following:

- Contact information - name, email, phone(s), fax, address.
- Current position and location
- Date of Ph.D and where and what field
- Date available if selected for Fellowship.
- If non-US citizen, visa status (note: funding only allows support for fellows on coming in on J1-visas)
- Current CV and Bibliography
- Letters of recommendation – Please arrange to have 3 letters of recommendation sent separately.

Application information can be sent (preferably by email) to:

Via snail mail to: Karen Ehrhorn, Institute for Astronomy, 2680 Woodlawn Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822.

Via email to: ehrhorn@ifa.hawaii.edu

Via fax to: NAI Postdoc application, Fax no. (808) 956-4644

Applications will be reviewed beginning February 1, 2009 and will remain open until the Fellowship is filled. The University of Hawai'i is an EEO/AA employer and encourages applications from women and minorities.