Polymer Engineering Postdoc Position

Postdoc opportunity: 1 or 2 years with a possibility of extension; starting May 2019 or sooner.

Profs. Tiz Mekonnen and Costas Tzoganakis, in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Waterloo, have an exciting postdoctoral fellow position related to polymer and rubber (nano)composites. The successful candidate will work on a combination of fundamental and applied research. The position provides opportunities to work on interdisciplinary research projects in collaboration with multinational industrial partners.

The successful candidate for this position needs to be an enthusiastic and passionate researcher with the following qualifications.

- PhD in Polymer Science and Engineering, Chemical Engineering, or other related disciplines from a recognized educational institute with a commendable track record of publications or patents.
- Demonstrated expertise in polymer and rubber processing is a requirement of the position, including working with extruders, batch mixers, and rheological characterization equipment.
- Knowledge of polymer structure – property relations as applied to polymer composites, recycled plastics and crosslinked rubber products.
- Polymeric materials application development platforms including polymer composites, wood-plastic composites, and rubber products.
- Expertise in physical characterization, including surface chemistry, mechanical properties of polymers, analytical techniques (IR, 1H NMR, 13C NMR, GPC), and particle characterization would be an asset.

Other Qualifications

- Proficient in scientific writing;
- Driven and organized with strong academic record;
- Strong interpersonal and communication (written and verbal) skills to work efficiently in a collaborative team environment;
- Highly adaptable and able to work independently under the supervision of the PIs; willingness to learn; self-starter;
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills with attention to detail;
- Ability to multitask effectively, with strong organizational and time management skills;
- Ability to lead and motivate graduate and co-op student(s),
- Ability to work safely, effectively and independently in a lab environment.

Application details

Please forward a current CV with a cover letter (indicating your interest in the area, and availability) and the contact information of 2-3 referees to tmekonnen@uwaterloo.ca. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those individuals selected for an interview will be contacted.