

**2019 WEEKLY BULLETIN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**  
**EVANSTON, ILLINOIS**  
July 15, 2019

*For full schedule, including Center events, please see the Department Calendar:*  
<http://www.chemistry.northwestern.edu/events/calendar.html>

**Arrivals**

We did not have any new arrivals

**BIP**

BIP is on summer vacation and will resume in the fall.

**Opportunities**

**The Solar Energy Conversion Group in the Chemical Sciences Division and the Surface Chemistry Group in the Materials Science Division at Argonne National Laboratory** are in search of a postdoctoral appointee. The successful candidate will conduct fundamental research on X-ray structure-function characterization of interfacial catalysts for water remediation chemistry in surface-tailored, spatially-confined porous materials. This research will be conducted as part of a multidisciplinary team investigating advanced materials for energy-water systems ([link here](#))= with a goal of investigating how confinement and interfacial surface chemistries can be tuned to enhance aqueous redox processes in pore- and interface-tailored membrane materials. The candidate will perform atomic-scale characterization of catalysts at pore-confined, tailored interfaces using a combination of in-situ high energy X-ray scattering, atomic pair distribution function (PDF) analysis, and X-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) spectroscopy. The candidate will further perform electrochemical characterization of interfacial catalysis and develops techniques for in-situ and electrochemical operando X-ray analyses. Finally, the candidate will participate in atomic layer deposition and molecular surface functionalization of membrane materials, analyzes data, prepares manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed publications, make presentations at scientific meetings, maintains comprehensive knowledge of pertinent literature, and develop new ideas, concepts, and/or research proposals.

Considerable knowledge of and experimental expertise in one or more of the following techniques is desired: X-ray scattering, atomic pair distribution function (PDF) analysis, X-ray absorption near edge (XANES) and X-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) spectroscopies, electrochemistry, catalysis, atomic layer deposition, inorganic synthesis. Good interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills as well as good skill in data processing, evaluation, and interpretation are also desired. This level of knowledge is typically achieved through a formal education in chemistry, materials sciences, chemical engineering or related disciplines at the Ph.D. degree level with 0 to 3 years of experience or equivalent in the scientific application of this knowledge and practical laboratory experience.

Interested candidates should send a detailed CV, along with a list of publications, to Karen Mulfort ([mulfort@anl.gov](mailto:mulfort@anl.gov)), Dave Tiede ([Tiede@anl.gov](mailto:Tiede@anl.gov)), and Alex Martinson ([martinson@anl.gov](mailto:martinson@anl.gov)). Argonne is

a U.S. Department of Energy laboratory managed by UChicago Argonne, LLC. Argonne is an equal opportunity employer, and we value diversity in our workforce.

**University of Cambridge, UK Department of Chemistry** Applications are invited for a Postdoctoral Research Associate (PDRA) to work in the Reisner group in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge, UK. The project is part of a European Research Council (ERC) and Leverhulme Trust funded project on protein electrochemistry and spectroscopy.

The ERC funded project (0.7 FTE) on 'Semi-artificial photosynthesis with wired enzymes' aims to integrate enzymes into porous electrodes to explore novel pathways for efficient solar-to-chemical conversion. We thereby address the need for new innovations in the solar fuels field and develop a new chemical biology platform, in which biological pathways can be systematically re-wired in vitro to characterise important metabolic processes, such as water splitting and CO<sub>2</sub> utilisation. Central to this project is materials design (in particular 3D electrode architectures), where materials will be tailored to the dimensions and functions of the enzymes, as well as the development of spectroelectrochemical techniques to deepen our understanding of the enzyme-material interface. The Leverhulme Trust funded project (0.3 FTE) is closely connected with the goals of the ERC-project and will be executed in collaboration with Dr Maxie Roessler from Imperial College London (<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/people/m.roessler>). This project on "Film-electrochemical EPR: a new method to investigate redox-based catalysis" is intended to pioneer EPR spectroelectrochemistry of immobilised proteins using porous metal oxide electrodes.

Applicants should have (or be about to obtain) a PhD in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Materials Science, Electrochemistry, Spectroscopy or a closely related discipline. A strong background in bioelectrochemistry, catalysis, materials chemistry and/or spectroscopy are desirable for the position. The applicant should also have experience in coordinating activities as part of a larger interdisciplinary team. Candidates are encouraged to think outside of their formal field of training to fit into a creative, collaborative and dynamic research environment. A strong record of research productivity, reflected in a strong publication record as well as excellent communication, management and English writing skills will be required. The successful candidate will also be expected to help guiding undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as taking on laboratory management duties.

More information about the Reisner group, including relevant publications, can be found at <http://www-reisner.ch.cam.ac.uk/>. Recent reviews on this topic are available here: Kornienko, Ly, Robinson, Heidary, Zhang & Reisner, Acc. Chem. Res. 2019, in print (DOI: 10.1021/acs.accounts.9b00087); Kornienko, Zhang, Sakimoto, Yang & Reisner, Nature Nanotechn. 2018, 13, 890-899 (DOI: 10.1038/s41565-018-0251-7).

Click the 'Apply' button below to register an account with our recruitment system (if you have not already) and apply online.

Please ensure that you upload your Curriculum Vitae (CV), a covering letter and include a publications list in the upload section of the online application. If you upload any additional documents that have not been requested, we will not be able to consider these as part of your application.

For queries relating to your application or the application process, please contact Inger Lomax (administrator of the Reisner laboratory) via email on [pa-reisner@ch.cam.ac.uk](mailto:pa-reisner@ch.cam.ac.uk)

Please quote reference MA19027 on your application and in any correspondence about this vacancy.

**University of Cambridge, UK Department of Chemistry** Applications are invited for a Postdoctoral Research Associate (PDRA) to work in the Reisner group in the Department of Chemistry at the

University of Cambridge, UK. The project is part of a Leverhulme Trust funded project entitled 'Optofluidic microreactors for advanced photocatalysis'. Producing renewable solar fuel by Artificial Photosynthesis and sustainable chemicals by photoredox catalysis is recognised as a promising solution to the energy & environmental crisis, but these approaches are facing critical roadblocks in technology development.

This interdisciplinary project tackles the main problems holding back exploitation of photocatalysis: lack of quantitative in-operando (during reaction) analysis and therefore fundamental understanding. We will develop optical detection strategies based on hollow-core photonic crystal fibre, whose glass microstructure guides light through metre-long microfluidic channels. The resulting optofluidic microreactors enable ultrasensitive absorption spectroscopy within minute reaction volumes (several nL per cm). By combining fibres with microfluidic circuits, we will create a rapid screening platform for photocatalysts and flow-chemistry in general. This project will be executed in collaboration with the group of Dr Tijmen Euser, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge (<https://www.np.phy.cam.ac.uk/research-themes/optofluidics>) . Work of this PDRA based in Chemistry will therefore be closely executed with the Tijmen team in the Physics department.

Applicants should have (or be about to obtain) a PhD in Chemistry, Materials Science, or a closely related discipline. A strong background in photocatalysis is required and knowledge in materials chemistry, mechanistic chemistry, microfluidics and spectroscopy are desirable for the position. The applicant should have experience in coordinating activities as part of a larger interdisciplinary team. Candidates are encouraged to think outside of their formal field of training to fit into a creative, collaborative and dynamic research environment. A strong record of research productivity, reflected in a strong publication record as well as excellent communication, management and English writing skills will be required. The successful candidate will also be expected to help guiding undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as taking on laboratory management duties.

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