



The University of Western Ontario

Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Planetary Materials

The Department of Earth Sciences and the Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration invite applications for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in the area of Planetary Materials. Appointment to a faculty position will be conditional on the selected candidate being awarded a Canada Research Chair. It is anticipated that the Chair nomination will be submitted to the CRC Secretariat in April 2012. The appointment will be made at the rank of assistant or associate professor (probationary (tenure-track) or tenure), with a starting date for the appointment of January 1, 2013, or later.

Planetary Materials is a major interdisciplinary research theme at The University of Western Ontario, led by the inter-faculty Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration with strong involvement and support from the Faculties of Science, Engineering, Social Science, Arts and Humanities and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. This position builds upon the recent appointment of an NSERC/MDA/CSA Industrial Research Chair in Planetary Geology and a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Planetary Science.

The applicant will have an established record in Planetary Materials research, with preference given to applicants whose research focuses on meteorites and/or samples returned from robotic and human sample return missions. We seek applicants whose research involves complementary field studies of terrestrial analogue environments and who have a history of interaction with Canadian and/or international space agencies and space industries.

Applicants must be prepared to supervise graduate students at the MSc and PhD levels, and to teach igneous petrology and related Earth Science subjects at the undergraduate level, as well as develop specialized courses in Planetary Materials at the graduate level. The successful applicant will become Curator of Western's growing meteorite collection, which includes a significant portion of the Tagish Lake meteorite.

The Department of Earth Sciences is a vibrant community of 24 full-time faculty members, 9 support staff, about 100 graduate students and 10 post-doctoral fellows, research associates and instructors. Research in the Department of Earth Sciences is organized into the broad themes of Earth and Planetary Systems; Resource Geoscience; Tectonic Processes and Natural Hazards; and Earth and Climate Evolution. The Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration comprises over 50 faculty from the Faculties of Science, Engineering, Social Science, Arts and Humanities, the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and is host to Canada's only graduate program in Planetary Science. The successful applicant will be expected to establish and maintain a vigorous, independently-funded research program in Planetary Materials, and to collaborate with other faculty members in one or more of our broad research themes. More information about the Department of Earth Sciences is available at: www.uwo.ca/earth/ and information on the Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration may be found at: <http://www.cpsx.uwo.ca>

Details of the CRC program can be found at <http://www.chairs.gc.ca/>. Tier 2 nominees should be excellent emerging researchers who have demonstrated particular research creativity and leadership and have demonstrated the potential to achieve international recognition in their fields in the next five to ten years. They should also be proposing an original, innovative research program of high quality with the potential to attract excellent trainees, students and future researchers.

Review of applications will commence September 15, 2011. A complete application includes a cover letter, a full curriculum vitae, a detailed research plan (2 pages max.), a description of teaching philosophy and preference (2 pages max.), and mail, email addresses, and phone/fax numbers of at least three referees, sent to:

Dr. R. Gerhard Pratt, Chair, Department of Earth Sciences, eschair@uwo.ca
The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario CANADA N6A 5B7.

Positions are subject to budget approval. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, aboriginal people and persons with disabilities.