Job Description: The Aerospace Laboratory for Plasma Experiments (ALPE) is currently accepting postdoctoral research applications for a year-long appointment from highly qualified candidates interested in working on a multi-disciplinary project related to the fields of plasma engineering, aerospace engineering, propulsion, and chemistry. The group is part of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. The candidate will perform experiments related to plasma propulsion, production, diagnostics, and analysis combined with ionic liquid decomposition and ionization. The candidate is expected to work in a highly inter-disciplinary laboratory environment involving plasma propulsion systems, plasma diagnostic design, experimental automation, plasma and decomposition modeling, and data analysis. The project provides a unique opportunity for the candidate to develop an extensive expertise and publication record in both plasma engineering and applied chemistry.

Qualifications: A Ph.D. is required. In addition, the ideal candidate should have demonstrated research expertise in two or more areas in the following categories.

1. Plasma system development and analysis;
2. Electric propulsion;
3. Optical plasma diagnostics, including laser and emission spectroscopy;
4. Ionic liquid decomposition and analysis;
5. Analysis of green monopropellants;

It is also expected that the candidate will be proficient in basic laboratory practices, LabView, and data analysis software.

About WMU and Kalamazoo: The Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences (CEAS), currently has 19 full-time faculty members and approximately 750 undergraduate and 100 graduate students. Department research includes structural mechanics and dynamics, biomechanics, materials science, dynamics and control systems, fluid dynamics, thermal and power systems, experimental plasma dynamics, and MEMS and nanotechnology. The College has seven academic departments residing in a $100 million facility surrounded by a Business Technology and Research Park on a 270-acre engineering campus. For information about CEAS see http://www.wmich.edu/engineer. More information about the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering can be found at wmich.edu/mae.

Western Michigan University has an enrollment of nearly 24,000 undergraduate and graduate students in eight colleges, including a school of medicine. Western Michigan University is located in Kalamazoo, about halfway between Chicago and Detroit. Kalamazoo is the cultural and educational center of southwest Michigan, within an hour drive of Lake Michigan. It is a thriving metropolitan area and a vibrant technological center with a strong manufacturing and service presence.

WMU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer consistent with applicable Federal and State Law. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.

To apply: Please send your CV and a brief cover letter on your research interests and qualifications to the email below:

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