Postdoctoral Position at UCLA

Plasma and Space Propulsion Lab
UCLA, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Description
The successful candidate will play an important role in exciting projects related to plasma propulsion and plasma theory and modeling. The individual will have several responsibilities, including:
1. Build and perform laboratory tests for new plasma thrusters and experiments designed to investigate specific plasma phenomena.
2. Collaborate with scientists and engineers at UCLA, JPL, and AFRL.
3. Assist in the development of physics-based plasma models to assess important plasma phenomena, develop new concepts, and optimize experimental devices and approaches.
4. Interested candidates may also be considered for participation in renewable energy projects in the group.

Education and experience
1. Ph.D. in Mechanical, Aerospace, or Electrical Engineering with thorough knowledge of plasma propulsion devices and the associated plasma dynamics. Candidate may have a Ph.D. in a related field, but MUST also have demonstrated skills (e.g., publications) as specified in the “Description” above.
2. Strong laboratory experience with plasma devices, data acquisition systems, and vacuum systems.
3. Modeling and/or theoretical skills in plasma dynamics a plus.
4. Mentoring experience is also attractive.

Core competencies
1. Creative and interdisciplinary thinking.
2. Independent and collaborative problem solving.
3. Teamwork and mentoring, with strong organizational skills.
4. Communication and interpersonal skills.
5. Proven track record of innovative project contributions, incl. publications.
6. Open to work in a dynamic, interdisciplinary environment.

Contact: Please e-mail your CV and publications (or links to your publications) to Prof. Richard Wirz, wirz@ucla.edu.

More information on the UCLA Plasma and Space Propulsion Laboratory can be found at: http://www.wirz.seas.ucla.edu/.