



JOB OFFER

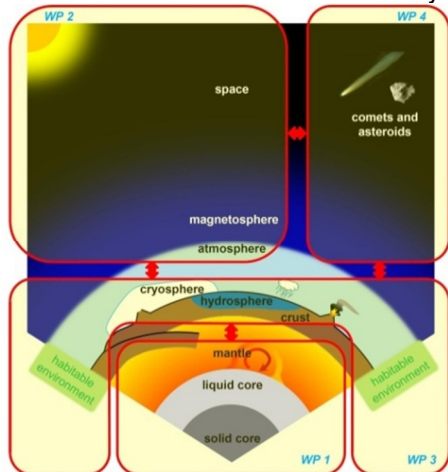
The Royal Observatory of Belgium searches for a scientific person for its activities in the frame of the Interuniversity Attraction Pole « PLANET TOPERS »

(Planets: Tracing the Transfer, Origin, Preservation, and Evolution of their ReservoirS)

Thanks to major funding from the Belgian Science Policy for the period 2012-2017, scientific positions at the PhD and Postdoctoral levels are available, starting in October 2012, to work on habitability of planets and moons of our solar system.

The positions are offered in the frame of an Interuniversity Attraction Pole « PLANET TOPERS ». <http://iuap-planet-toppers.oma.be> provides a description of this research initiative and the partners.

The PhD contracts will be for two years renewable up to 4 years, the postdoctoral positions will be one or two years and may be extended up to 5 years.



Starting dates are flexible. A first round is expected in October 2012, at the initiation of the project. However, applications will remain open during the five year course of Planet Toppers or until all positions are filled.

The Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB) in particular is looking for a scientific collaborator to realize studies on mantle convection in terrestrial planets or moons of the solar system (WP1 on the figure). The objective of the work is characterize the dynamical evolution of the mantle and the crust in order to better understand the evolution of the whole planet or moon and its habitability.

Enthusiastic and motivated scientists are encouraged to apply even if they are not available on October 1st, 2012.

The competitive salary, according to the salary scales for federal civil servant scientists, makes it possible to live comfortably in Brussels and includes benefits.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The ideal candidate has an Academic master degree in Science or Engineering and a PhD (for the postdoctoral positions), and combines many of the following characteristics:

- Scientific curiosity
- Strong interest in the field of space research
- Creative and pragmatic problem-solving approach
- Experience in numerical modelling
- Knowledge of fluid mechanics
- Capability to work in English.

HOW TO APPLY

Send your CV with a cover letter and if possible two or three references (all in PDF format) by August 1st, 2012 to t.vanhoolst@oma.be with copy to v.dehant@oma.be, Head of Operational Direction 'Reference Systems and Planetology' at ROB.

Assessment of applications will start in early August 2012. Commencement of employment on October 1st, 2012 or later.