

Notice of Research Associate Opening at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

TITLE: Planetary Atmospheres Research Associate (Postdoctoral)

DEPARTMENT: Space Science and Engineering Center, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison (visit <http://www.ssec.wisc.edu> for more information about SSEC and employment opportunities).

ADDRESS: 1225 West Dayton Street, Madison, WI, 53706

CONTACT: Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Sromovsky, Senior Scientist

CONTACT PHONE: 608-263-6785 (Office)

CONTACT EMAIL: larry.sromovsky@ssec.wisc.edu

REQUIREMENTS: PhD in Astronomy, Atmospheric Sciences, Physics, or related field, awarded no more than 5 years prior to start date. Experience with atmospheric radiation transfer. Good English communication and writing skills. Experience with IDL and Fortran languages. Familiarity with outer-planet atmospheres.

JOB DUTIES: The main duty is analysis of imaging and spectroscopic observations of the outer planets under the direction of Dr. Sromovsky. Extensive data sets to be analyzed are from the Keck II telescope and NASA Infrared Telescope Facility on Mauna Kea, the Hubble Space Telescope, and from the Galileo, Cassini, and New Horizons missions. The primary analysis targets are the cloud structures and parent gas mixing ratios on Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune. Duties include learning how to operate existing radiation transfer codes and developing improvements to speed the process of fitting of cloud structure parameters to match observed radiances. Duties also include planning research, preparation of data for analysis, carrying out analysis tasks, preparing figures, and writing descriptions of results for publication as well as for presentation at professional meetings.

BENEFITS: Based on 100% employment: 22 days of annual paid vacation, health insurance, and sick leave.

SALARY RANGE: \$50K-\$55K, depending on experience.

START DATE: 1 August 2009 (Negotiable)

DURATION: 1 year, with extension to 2 years, depending on performance and funding.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 31 July 2009.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES: Send email to larry.sromovsky@ssec.wisc.edu with Research Associate Position in the subject line and with an attached resume in pdf format. Also arrange for two letters of reference to be sent to the same email address, or to Dr. Sromovsky at the above department address.