

Institute of Geological Sciences – Geochemistry Group

PhD Position in Geochemistry

We are looking for a motivated PhD student to work on a subproject within the DFG priority program SPP 1385 “The First 10 Million Years of the Solar System – a Planetary Materials Approach” (<http://www.rzuser.uni-heidelberg.de/~ia2/>).

The goal of the subproject is to constrain the origin and evolution of the metal phase in components of unequilibrated chondritic meteorites by study of the abundances of highly and moderately siderophile elements and osmium isotopes. This study will contribute to our understanding of the processes that have modified and shaped condensed matter in the early solar system and the planets. The project will involve clean room, ICPMS and TIMS work using state-of-the-art methods, and will be embedded in other projects on the behavior of siderophile elements in the Earth at Freie Universität Berlin. The project will also benefit from interactions with related projects within SPP 1385.

Qualified candidates must have a M.Sc. or equivalent degree in Geological Sciences and should have a strong background in geochemistry and/or petrology and in analytical methods. Good communication skills in English are required. Freie Universität Berlin is encouraging applications from women and disabled persons.

The project has been recommended for funding, but awaits final approval by the DFG later this year. Envisioned starting date is 01.01.2012, but there is some flexibility. Initial funding of the position is for 2 years, with possible extension by a third year, contingent on performance. Salary level is 50% TV 13 (i.d.F.d. Anw.-TV FUB) with retirement and health insurance benefits. If you are interested, please contact Prof. Harry Becker at Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Geologische Wissenschaften, Malteserstr. 74 – 100, D-12249 Berlin, Germany (email: hbecker@zedat.fu-berlin.de). Applications by email as a single pdf document are preferred and should arrive not later than 12/12/2011. Applications should include a motivation letter, CV, an abstract of M.Sc. thesis research, copies of transcripts and degree certificates and the names of 2 referees who are willing to provide references.