



Ph.D. Position in Soil Mechanics

The Space Research Institute (IWF)
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Graz

A three year Ph.D. position is available at the Space Research Institute of the Austrian Academy of Science within the frame of an ASAP10 project:

Modelling of dynamic penetration in granular soils under space conditions

This project is one of the Austrian contributions to the NASA InSight Mars mission. The problem addressed in this research work is to understand the penetration behaviour of a mole-type penetrator in a planetary soil. Such a device has been developed over the recent years in the frame of the DLR HP³ instrument and will now form a part of the payload of the NASA InSight mission to Mars, which will be launched in 2016.

The use of numerical models considering large deformation / large strain analysis is essential to solve this problem. Therefore the successful applicant should have a good background not only in soil mechanics but also in numerical modelling.

Although the position is a contract with the Austrian Academy of Sciences the candidate is expected to spend a substantial amount of time with the Computational Geotechnics Group of the Institute of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering at the Graz University of Technology in cooperation with Prof. H. F. Schweiger.

A part of the duties will be the attendance in meetings of the InSight team and the soil mechanics task group, as well as taking part in the reporting activities as required by the project contract. Thus the ability to fluently speak and write in English is required from the candidate.

The appointment begins at July 2014 for 36 months and the application deadline will be 16. May 2014. The annual gross (brutto) salary will be 26,628 € according to 75% of the 4/1 category of the Austrian Academy of Sciences salary scheme. Interested candidates should send their application including a short CV to either the project leader Dr. Günter Kargl (Guenther.Kargl@oeaw.ac.at) or to Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger (helmut.schweiger@tugraz.at).

The Austrian Academy of Sciences is an equal opportunity employer.

Institut für Weltraumforschung, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften

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