Postdoctoral Associate - Energy Systems Institute Lab Manager

The Cornell Energy Systems Institute (ESI) is the lead organization for technology-based research and education in energy. The institute is uniquely positioned to tackle the planet’s most pressing challenges in the area of clean and sustainable energy technology through research, education, and technology spinoff ventures. The institute’s mission is to make energy systems with low carbon footprint the norm through innovations in materials, technology, and systems design.

The Energy Systems Institute Laboratory, a 4,000 square foot, 24/7 facility, in Kimball is designed to support soft matter research and technology scale-up activities that support the mission of the institute. The laboratory is available on a fee-for-service basis to anyone, with priority given to ESI stakeholders. Individuals may access the lab and its equipment, taking new material from concept to prototype. The lab boasts unique capabilities for materials synthesis, physical characterization, material structure-property-processing analysis, and scale-up. The ESI laboratory also includes a variety of analytical instruments for evaluating materials, devices, and systems in applications including carbon capture and conversion, electrochemical energy storage in batteries & fuel cells, photonic and photovoltaics and hydrogels for biomedicine and drug delivery. The open lab encourages partnerships internal to Cornell and between companies and the university.

The responsibility of this position is two-fold: (i) management of the Energy Systems Institute Lab; and (ii) Performance of original research in support of the Energy Systems Institute mission and under the supervision of the ESI director. It is expected that these responsibilities will each represent an approximately 50% time commitment. Specific responsibilities under the laboratory management function of the position will include:

- User support and training;
- Management of a team of expert users and postdoctoral scientists who will be responsible for instrument maintenance and new user training.
- System maintenance;
- Purchasing, inventory and reporting;
- Procedures and process documentation and improvement;
- Lab safety protocols and tracking compliance of those protocols.

Responsibilities under the research function will include supervised research focused in one or more of the ESI thrusts (Advanced batteries, fuel cells, systems design for transportation and manufacturing, and carbon capture & conversion).

Required Qualifications: A PhD degree in an engineering or science discipline with 2 to 3 years of lab experience (academic, industry, and/or government) or equivalent is required. Applicants
with electrochemistry laboratory and clean room experience are preferred. Must have demonstrated ability to work safely with hazardous chemicals and be comfortable working in a dynamic environment. Must be able to interact effectively as part of a team with users at all levels of competence. Electrical, electronic, and mechanical trouble shooting skills are required. Demonstrated ability to learn new hands-on skills. Willingness to work patiently with diverse population of researchers and other users, as they gain the required skills to safely and successfully operate lab equipment.

Preferred Qualifications: PhD degree in engineering or science discipline with at least 2 years of leadership experience. Strong writing and oral communication skills. Familiarity with graphical programs, including Adobe Acrobat, Illustrator, Photoshop

To Apply: Please send a CV, a statement of research interests, and the names of three references to Bailey Colvin by email to blk26@cornell.edu. Applications will be considered until this position is filled.

Employment Assistance:

If you require an accommodation for a disability in order to complete an employment application or to participate in the recruiting process, you are encouraged to contact Cornell University’s Office of Workforce Policy and Labor Relations at voice (607) 254-7232, fax (607) 255-0298, or email at equalopportunity@cornell.edu.

Applicants that do not have internet access are encouraged to visit your local library, or local Department of Labor. You may also visit the office of Workforce Recruitment and Retention Monday - Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. to use a dedicated workstation to complete an online application.

Notice to Applicants:

Please read the required Notice to Applicants statement by clicking here. This notice contains important information about applying for a position at Cornell as well as some of your rights and responsibilities as an applicant.

EEO Statement:

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University’s heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities. Cornell University is an innovative Ivy League university and a great place to work. Our inclusive community of scholars, students, and staff impart an uncommon sense of larger
purpose, and contribute creative ideas to further the university’s mission of teaching, discovery, and engagement.