

PhD position open on the SBO project SUBLIME

Start date: October 2022

Contact: Iris.De.Graeve@vub.be and Tom.Hauffman@vub.be, as the two PhD supervisors, and Katrien.Van.Hecke@vub.be as the administrative project manager.

Project topic :

We are looking to start a new 4 year Phd on a recently granted large Strategic Basic Research project dealing with flexible / stretchable electronics with partners of various research units at VUB and UHasselt, with UHasselt as project coordinator, and many industrial consortium partners.

In the specific PhD project, supervised in the Research Group of Electrochemical and Surface Engineering at VUB by Prof. Iris De Graeve and Prof. Tom Hauffman, the interactions between a liquid metal alloy (gallium based) as conducting alloy with solid electrical contacts will be investigated. This means that possible metal-metal interactions like interdiffusion, galvanic corrosion or other mechanisms will be studied using various electrochemical and surface analytical approaches. In-depth understanding of the interactions mechanisms will be generated and will serve to develop mitigation strategies.

Profile of the PhD candidate :

You should be holder of a Masters diploma in Science or Engineering Sciences, with as specialty Materials Science, Metallurgy and/or Chemistry, or related disciplines. Ideally you have experience with metals, electrochemistry / corrosion and surface analyses methods.

The SURF research group is part of the Materials and Chemistry Department that joins together over 70 people from all over the world. Hence, you will be working in a multicultural and very dynamic environment where respect for all is equal and diversity is very high in all its aspects. To fit in to this group you must be able to work and communicate with people of all nationalities, colours, gender, age, experience and many more elements of social and personal importance. The language of communication is English.

As PhD student you do research and contribute to various educational courses in the form of lab sessions, projects or exercise sessions. So you should have an interest also in our education programs at VUB in Engineering Sciences and Architectural engineering on bachelor and master level.

If your profile fits into this description, feel free to send us your CV including your education and prior academic records and your personal CV, and of course also tell us your motivation to join us at VUB!