

**Postdoctoral Associate:
Exoplanetary/Substellar and/or Time-domain Astronomy**

About Western

Western ranks as one of Canada's top research-intensive universities. From fundamental to applied discovery and other scholarly activities, its scholars advance knowledge that provides tangible benefits for the economic, social, health and cultural development of citizens in London, in Canada and around the world. Western Research supports scholars through collaboration, communication, and service. Western University and its affiliate colleges received more than \$267 million in research funding over the past year.

About the Role

Prof. Stanimir Metchev at the Western University Department of Physics & Astronomy and the Institute for Earth and Space Exploration (Western Space), invites applications for a Postdoctoral Associate. Two areas of expertise are sought. Applicants with qualifications in either or both areas are invited to apply:

1. **Exoplanetary or brown dwarf astrophysics.** The successful applicant will lead aspects of the science preparation, notably the characterization of nearby ultra-cool dwarfs, for a proposed transit-exoplanet micro-satellite mission for the Canadian Space Agency: POET (Photometric Observations of Extrasolar Transits). Background in precision photometry, spectroscopy, or time series analysis would be advantageous.
2. **Time-domain astronomy and robotic observatories.** The successful applicant will lead science operations with three 0.5 m robotic telescopes equipped with rapid-imaging cameras for stellar occultation or transiting exoplanet observations. Strong computer programming expertise is required. Experience with hardware/software interfacing, systems automation, or data management would be advantageous.

The candidate will be expected to actively pursue additional ground- or space-based observations in support of one or both programs. Further opportunities for collaboration with Metchev's team exist in the fields of brown dwarfs, exoplanets, circumstellar debris disks, or solar system astronomy. Western has access to all Canadian national telescopes, including Gemini, the CFHT, ALMA, and a slew of 1–2 metre-class telescopes. Metchev's team also uses JWST, TESS, Hubble, NOAO and ESO telescopes, and the NASA/IRTF.

Remuneration is CA\$60,000 per year. Western University provides a competitive benefits package for postdoctoral associates. The start date is flexible, but preferably no later than October 1, 2022. The appointment will be for up to three years, contingent on annual progress reviews and availability of funds.

Candidates must have a doctoral degree in Astronomy, Planetary Science, or a related field. Candidates should submit a CV, a 2–3-page statement of research experience and interests, and the names of three references directly to Prof. Metchev. The position is open until filled. For full consideration, complete applications should be received by June 15, 2022. For further information, please contact Prof. Metchev (smetchev@uwo.ca).

Western Values Diversity

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process.

Important Note

Effective September 7, 2021, all employees and visitors to campus are required to comply with Western's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.