



Institut de Materials Avançats  
Universitat Jaume I  
Castelló  
[www.inam.uji.es](http://www.inam.uji.es)

[1 Predoctoral Position on Physics, Chemistry or Engineering](#)

## **Job Description**

**Universitat Jaume I, Institut de Materials Avançats (INAM)**

**Location: Edifici d'Investigació**

**Working hours: 37,5**

**Closing Date: August, 5<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**Hours of work: Full time**

**Interview: Date to be confirmed**

**Information enquiries to: Loles Merchan ([inamadmin@uji.es](mailto:inamadmin@uji.es)) including as a subject of your E-mail "Urgent Predoctoral No-Limit job offer"**

## **How to apply**

Applications should be completed following the instructions given in our website.

<http://www.inam.uji.es/job-offers/1-predoctoral-position-no-limit-project-consolidator-grant-european-research-council>

# **THE POST**

**The Project**

The post is available as part of the No-LIMIT European Research Council Consolidator Grant project, with Assoc. Prof. Iván Mora-Seró as Principal Investigator. The objective of the project is boosting photovoltaic performance by the synergistic interaction of halide perovskites and semiconductor quantum dots. Photovoltaic conversion has the extraordinary property of transforming the solar energy directly into electric power. However, the available electrical power is known to be severely limited by the so-called Shockley-Queisser (SQ) photoconversion limit. The maximum efficiency for a single absorber is limited as photons with energy lower than the bandgap (BG) cannot be absorbed, and just an energy equivalent to the BG can be used for photons with higher energy than the BG, due to thermalization. No-LIMIT will exploit the interaction between halide perovskite and semiconductor colloidal quantum dots and the resulting synergies in order to break the SQ limit. The achievement of this ambitious final objective, together with the intermediate steps, will have a colossal impact on photovoltaics.

This post will build on recent publications from the team on the interaction between perovskite and quantum dots as *Science Advances* **2**, e1501104, 2016 and *Nanoscale* **8**, 14379, 2016. However it is based on an important understanding of perovskite solar cells (i.e. *Nature Communications* **4**, 2242, 2013; *Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters* **5**, 680–685, 2014; *Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters* **5**, 2390–2394, 2014) and LEDs (i.e. *Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters* **6**, 1883–1890, 2015; *Advanced Materials* DOI: 10.1002/adma.201604056, 2016); and on quantum dot optoelectronic devices (*ACS Nano* **4**, 5783–5790, 2010; *Nature Communications* **4**, 2272, 2013; *Nanoscale* **6**, 8551–8555, 2014). The group is devoted to the study of non-conventional semiconductors and their applications on optoelectronic devices, taking special attention to the synergies that could arise from the interaction between materials of different nature. This is an opportunity for an ambitious scientist with a strong track record of excellence to work in a multi-skilled team to develop a new class of solar cells.

The Principal Investigator is Assoc. Prof. Iván Mora-Seró (1974, M. Sc. Physics 1997, Ph. D. Physics 2004) is researcher at Universitat Jaume I de Castelló (Spain). His research during the Ph.D. at Universitat de València (Spain) was centered in the crystal growth of semiconductors II-VI with narrow gap. On February 2002 he joined the University Jaume I (UJI). At 2006 he started his own research line on quantum dot sensitized solar cells. Currently he is leading the Research Division F4 at Institute of Advanced Materials (INAM) of UJI. He has been granted with a 'Juan de la Cierva' and 'Ramon y Cajal' Fellowship both from the Spanish government and 'Idea Award' (2011) in the category of physico-chemical sciences, awarded by the Foundation of the city of Arts and Sciences and the Valencia government. He had been granted with a fellowship at Weizmann Institute, Israel (2016). His research has been focused on crystal growth, nanostructured devices, transport and recombination properties, photocatalysis, electrical characterization of photovoltaic, electrochromic, and water splitting systems, making both experimental and theoretical work. Recent research activity is focused on new concepts for photovoltaic conversion and light emission (LEDs and optical amplifiers) based on nanoscaled devices and semiconductor materials following two main lines: semiconductor quantum dots and lead halide perovskites, been this last line probably the current hottest topic in the development of new optoelectronic devices. He has published more than 170 papers. He is included in the 2016, 2017 and 2018 list of Highly Cited Researchers of the Web of Science, list that just includes the 3000 highly cited researchers, in last 11 years, around the whole world in all the Science categories.

There is a Position for a Graduated on Physics, Chemistry or Engineering

The PhD student will develop an experimental work. It will be required experience in the preparation of halide perovskite layers with embedded QDs

General skills requested are:

- Strongly motivated to develop a scientific research career. • Excellent results obtained during the studies graduated.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Fluent in English.

#### Benefits

The candidate shall be appointed with a full-time (37.5 hours/week) employment contract for period of four months. The estimated start date is 1st of September 2019.

#### Selection process

Applications will be evaluated for technical and eligibility requirements at the end for the application process.

The best applications overcoming those requirements will be shortlisted, and asked for further information, as well as for an interview.

The interview will be handled face to face or by teleconference (Skype or similar) and will be arranged at convenience of both parts.

#### Scale:

Relevant academic and curricular background 0-40

Specific requirements 0-15

Relevant publications/work experience 0-20

Interview 0-25

***It is important to note that this is not an exclusive list.*** If you have relevant experience and a strong track record (*e.g.*, publications and/or patents) in a related area, you are encouraged to apply and state how you would contribute to the project. Expertise in more than one area is desirable. ***However, we are looking for a team of the best people who can apply their skills to the project, not to fill a restrictive skills list.***

In all the cases, you will pro-actively progress your project, using your own initiative, knowledge and extensive discussion with the group members. You will be responsible for day-to-day decisions regarding the project. It is expected that you will be an innovative individual with an interest in applying your research skills to a challenging project – this will require daily decision making in terms of determining the best approaches to solve a particular research problem. There is a specific requirement to work closely with other researchers with different skills to yours. There are project meetings about every 1-2 weeks at which presentations concerning recent results and future plans are made. The role may require work off-site (*e.g.*, at international or national facilities, or at collaborator sites).



## HOSTING ARRANGEMENTS

Training and career development at **Institute of Advanced Materials (INAM)** as part of the University Jaume I (Castellón, Spain) is central to its culture of encouraging both learning and knowledge transfer to its user communities. Over the last 5 years (2015) **INAM** there has trained over *48 people* including *9 PhD* and *31 Post Docs*. Undergraduate training by teaching an official course entitled “*An introduction to the research*” at the **Universitat Jaume I**, for chemical undergraduate students. This initiative is intended to give the opportunity to undergraduate students to participate in basic work carried out in research laboratories. After graduation doctoral research started with a master course. As a complement to the training activities regulated by master's and doctoral studies, the members of the unit have organized courses of specialization in specific subjects that could have impact in scientific and technological fields, or in the training of experts. On the other hand our groups have been organizing numerous international schools and workshops. After the University Master's Degree, the students can entry in the *doctoral program* in Science at **UJI**. This *PhD Program* is aimed at graduates in the field of physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, geology and agricultural sciences. Its purpose is to provide doctoral students the capacity for autonomous research in the above mentioned fields, for which it is required to perform first a series of training tasks aimed at enhancing the capabilities required for the realization of the doctoral thesis. Achieving the doctoral degree ensures adequate training to carry out research in the public sector and private industry. In the period 2011-2015, *9 PhD theses*, with at least one PI of the unit as supervisor, were defended. Most of these Doctors continue nowadays a research carrier. Their training during their PhD allows them to obtain postdoctoral positions in important international labs around the world.

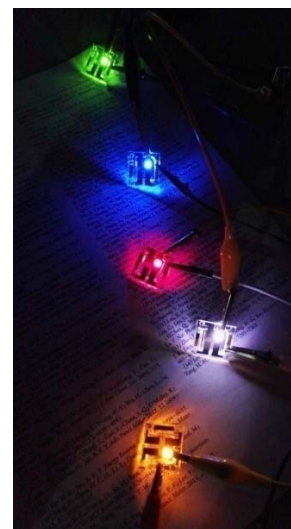
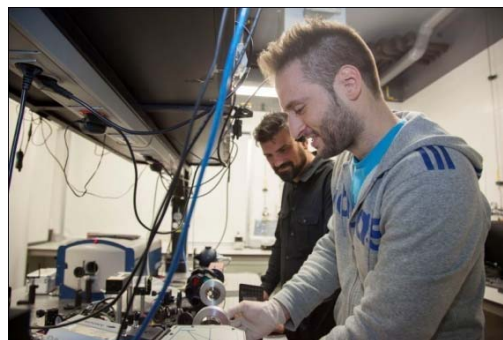


**Dr. Iván Mora Seró**

## **FACILITIES**

INAM main equipment comprises the required facilities for the fabrication and characterization of the novel materials and devices, including a Kelvin Probe, six potentiostats with impedance analyzers, two solar simulators, a climatic chamber, two UV/VIS spectrometers, two fluorimeters and two IPCE systems. Moreover, two gas chromatographs, one of them fitted with a mass spectrometer to carry out the analysis of products of catalytic reactions. The UJI central research services also provides of further equipment to analyze the structure of the materials: a BET porosimeter, two scanning electron microscopes (SEM) and a transmission electron microscope (TEM), all of them fitted with Energy Dispersive Spectroscopeters (EDS) for chemical analysis, an atomic force microscope (AFM), an optical microscope (OM), X-Ray diffractometers for polycrystalline and monocrystalline samples (XRD), mechanical and optical profilometers, temperature controlled impedance spectroscopy analyzer, two nuclear magnetic resonance devices (300 and 500 MHz), Raman and infrared spectrometers, an ICP-MS equipment for elemental and isotopic analysis, and a nanosecond laser for transient spectroscopy. All the equipment above described is used by the experienced researcher on his own, with help from his supervisor or by technicians in charge. It stands out, the experienced researcher is familiar with the vast majority of the equipment.

The UJI also counts on transversal infrastructures such as UJI prestigious library, which manages specialized library collections and it makes great emphasis of the use of **"open access"**. The host institution aims to give an unbeatable deal to the researcher, therefore the UJI supports the general principles specified in both the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researcher. The Human Resources Service helps to the researcher to settle into their new host country by providing advice on issues such as salaries and taxation, social security, work permits and health care.





## CITY OF CASTELLÓN

In Castellón, everything is nearby. In our city, the smell of oranges still surrounds the city streets and the orchards are still present in the settlement. Castellón is the capital city of la Plana Alta and stills preserves the quiet and friendly character of working environments. The urban has around 180.000 inhabitants and it is possible to distinguish between the historic centre, the new neighborhoods, and the maritime district known as el Grao or the port.

The climate is generally excellent that is always an advantage. In the city centre the cultural and commercial life – completely Mediterranean – allows seeing a joyful and lively city. The historic centre which still conserves the shape of a Roman camp houses the city's emblematic monuments. This primitive core rose from the ancient Arab farms after the Town Charter provided by Jaume I in the XIII century. On the city's outskirts, cultural and sports facilities have been developed. Between the primitive core and the sea stands the maritime district, El Grao where all the nautical activities take place.

The urban ensemble from Castellón is only understood considering the modern mentality and international outlook of its inhabitants. There is, and there has always been a continue desire of being updated and open to visitors. And that is what is offered along with other variety of attractions such as the sea, orchards, monuments, culture, nature, festivals, and so on.

We suggest you to check the comparison cost of living in Castellón from other places

<https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/comparison.jsp>

