

IMDEA-NANOCIENCIA: A NEW INSTITUTE DEVOTED TO RESEARCH IN NANOSCIENCE AND NANOTECHNOLOGY IN MADRID

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IMDEA- Nanociencia is a private Foundation created by a joint initiative of the regional Government of Madrid and the Ministry of Education of the Government of Spain in February 2007. The only aim of the Foundation is to manage the Madrid Institute of Advanced Studies in Nanoscience, a new interdisciplinary research centre dedicated to the exploration of basic nanoscience and the development of applications of nanotechnology in close connection with innovative industries. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, which includes representatives of the Administration, the Academic Institutions involved (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas), industries, members of the Scientific Advisory Council, and experts in societal implications of nanoscience and technology transfer.

The Foundation and the Institute are located in the campus of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid in Cantoblanco, 12 kilometres away from Madrid downtown, on the highway to the Sierra. The campus has excellent communication by public transportation with the Madrid-Barajas airport (25-30 min) and Madrid downtown (15-20 m).

The Foundation is run by a flexible, professional management structure and works for a closer interaction of scientists in the IMDEA-Nano and companies in the region of Madrid and elsewhere. The common efforts to generate joint research projects are focused into specific proposals by a qualified staff. The main tasks of the Institute are the recruitment of new scientific talent and its organization into research teams provided with first line equipment and competitive infrastructure, able to tackle specific scientific problems in basic nanoscience and certain nanotechnologies.

The scientific (Ph. D students, postdocs, junior and senior scientists), technical and administration personnel of the Institute is contracted by the Foundation through public, competitive processes, subjected to periodic scientific evaluation and salary revision.

The initial areas of research are:

- i) Molecular nanoscience (with emphasis in carbon nanostructures)
- ii) Semiconducting nanostructures for quantum information
- iii) Nanophotonics
- iv) Nanomagnetism
- v) Conductivity in nanostructures
- vi) Biomachines and manipulation of biomoléculas. Nanomedicine and biomedical application of magnetic nanoparticles
- vii) Nanolithography and nanofabrication

