

DIRECTOR AT THE CATALONIA INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY RESEARCH (IREC) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Catalonia Institute for Energy Research based in Sant Adrià del Besòs (Barcelona) is a CERCA Research Institution supported by a Foundation. CERCA is the public Catalan network of research Institutes (www.cerca.cat).

IREC was created on July 31, 2008, and began its activities in January 2009. Its mission is to become a centre of excellence and an international benchmark organization in the energy sector, through research, technology development and innovation. The ultimate goal of its research activity is to contribute to the sustainable development of society and greater industrial competitiveness.

IREC works collaboratively with the Government, University and Industry, and under this concept has been structured its Board of Trustees composed by two representatives of Catalan Government, two of Spanish Government and one for each industrial corporation participating in the Foundation (Endesa, Gas Natural Fenosa, Fundación Repsol, CLH, Enagás and Alstom Renovables). The President is the Minister of Enterprise and Employment of the Catalan Government.

The Institute works with a dual approach: Applied research, aimed at generating knowledge within groups of the Institute, with a mid or long-term commercial projection in mind and Technological research, focused on collaboration with the industry to create new products and new technical solutions at short and mid-term.

In the area of Applied Research there are seven groups:

- Functional nanomaterials
- Catalysis
- Materials for solar energy systems
- Nanoionics and fuel cells
- Energy storage and harvesting
- Thermochemical conversion
- Bio-refinery and microalgae

In the area of Technological research there are five groups:

- Electrical machines, control systems and grid integration for wind energy
- Aerodynamics and aeroelasticity for wind turbines
- Smart grids and microgrids
- Thermal energy and building performance
- Lighting

IREC will move in a two-year period to a new Campus of UPC (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya) in a stimulating academic environment closed to the city of Barcelona.

Candidate profile and contact information

IREC is seeking applicants with a distinguished record of scientific excellence and the innovative thinking necessary to lead a dynamic organisation. He/She should have a PhD degree, a good level of energy background, experience in managing international research projects as well as a certain level of industrial background. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Knowledge of the Spanish Scientific and Industrial environment as well as European research programs will be considered an added value, as well as professional experience in an inter-institutional environment.

Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter by e-mail to the Director of CERCA at applications@cerca.cat. The appointment will be for a period of 4 years, which might be extended in agreement with the Board of trustees of the Foundation.

Job description

The director will have the following duties:

- Provide scientific vision and strategic goals for the IREC.
- Submit the Centre's activities programme and annual operating budget to the Board of trustees, with special emphasis on the profit and loss account highly related to obtaining the necessary revenue.
- Represent the Centre at official and social events, in coordination with the President and other members of the Board of trustees.
- Keep CERCA regularly informed of the Centre's progress.
- Others functions that might be approved by the Board of trustees.

The Director will be responsible for:

- Defining a strategic plan and monitoring its implementation.
- Reporting at the meetings of the Board of trustees.
- Proposing names of members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to the Board of trustees, keeping it informed about major changes, and organising the regular meetings.
- Participating in the periodic CERCA evaluation of IREC.
- Coordinating periodic scientific assessments of IREC's research programmes and core facilities, and implementing recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)
- Supervising the implementation of financial aspects of the budget.
- Negotiating contracts for new group leaders or programme coordinators, whenever appropriate.
- Participating in strategic decision-making, such as in the case of strategic alliances with other research institutions, in line with IREC's mission, structure and background.
- Participating in regular meetings with the local decision-makers in energy
- Pushing the cooperation with the industry.

Selection of candidates

Suitable candidates will be identified in a ranked list by three members of the SAB, drawing upon the input of any other expert that the SAB might require.

The Board of Trustees will be responsible for the final steps of the selection process and CERCA is delegated to manage all steps in this selection process. The Board of trustees may create an ad hoc Commission involving some of its members in order to provide a short list of the preselected candidates. Candidates included in the short list may be invited to visit IREC and meet the ad hoc Commission for a final interview. The results of these interviews would be presented to the Board of trustees. This will designate the new Director.

Approximate Calendar

April 7th	Call for applications opens deadline
May 27th	Application deadline ends
June 10th	List of prioritized candidates by SAB
June 20th	Short list of pre-selected candidates chosen by the ad hoc Commission
July 11th	Appointment announced