

Miguel A. Fuentes-Cabrera

Research Staff
Nanomaterials Theory Institute
Center For Nanophase Materials Sciences Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
(865) 574-2206
fuentescabma@ornl.gov



Education

University of La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain
University of La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain

Physics B.A., 1993
Physics Ph.D., 1998

Professional Experience

2009–p Research Staff, Computer Science and Mathematics Division, Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
2006–2009 Research Scientist I, Joint Institute for Computational Sciences, Computer Science and Mathematics Division, Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
2002–2006 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
2001–2002 Postdoctoral Research Associate, North Carolina State University.
1999–2001 Fulbright Postdoctoral Research Associate, Arizona State University.

Honors and Awards

1999–2001 Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar
1994–1998 Ph. D. Fellowship, Spanish Ministry of Education

Publications ~ 46

Research Synopsis

1. *Self-Assembled Monolayers*: We use *ab initio* techniques, based on Density Functional Theory, to understand the self-assembling of molecular clusters and molecular monolayers on metallic surfaces. This work is done in collaboration with an experimental group at CNMS.
2. *Design and Synthesis of Nanomaterials*: We use classical molecular dynamics simulations to understand the de-wetting of metallic thin films and nanostructures on graphite. The goal is to control the de-wetting process so as to control the self-assembling of metallic nanoparticles. This work is done in collaboration with an experimental group at CNMS.
3. *Synthetic Biology*: *Ab-initio* techniques and classical molecular dynamics simulations are used to investigate a variety of topics within the area of Synthetic Biology, i.e. i) whether artificial DNAs could be an alternative to natural DNA for nanotechnological applications; ii) pre-biotic chemistry; iii) the use of bacterial micro-compartments for creating biofuels.

Collaborations Outside ORNL During Past Five Years

Otto F. Sankey, Arizona State University; Jerry Bernholc and Wenchang Lu, North Carolina State University; Judit E. Spöner and Jiri Spöner, Institute of Biophysics of the Czech Republic; Javier F.

Luque and Modesto Orozco, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain; Rosa Di Felice, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy; Mike Baskes, Los Alamos National Laboratory; Anatoly V. Melechko, North Carolina State University; Jerzy Leszczynski, Jackson State University; Leon Petit, University of Aarhus, Denmark; Alfonso Muñoz-González, Universidad de La Laguna, Spain.

Graduate and Postdoc Advisors

Graduate Advisor: Prof. Alfonso Muñoz-González (University of La Laguna)

Postdoc Advisors: Otto F. Sankey (Arizona State University); Celeste Sagui (North Carolina State University); Don Nicholson and Jack C. Wells (ORNL)

Postdocs and Students Advised

- *Postdocs.*

Yungok Ihm, August 2011-p (co-mentored with James Morris, University of Tennessee).

Trung D. Nguyen, August 2011-p (co-mentored with Michael W. Brown, Oak Ridge National Laboratory).

- *Undergraduate Students.* Sponsor: Higher Education Research Experiences at Oak Ridge National Laboratory for Students.

Scott R. Horton, May 2009-February 2010

Bradley H. Rhodes, May-August 2010

Scott R. Horton, May-August 2011

Chengbo Han, May-August 2011

Benjamin Hulbert, August-December 2011

- *High-School Students.* Sponsor: Tennessee Governor Academy of Students

Shelby Vazquez, January-April 2010

David Calhoun, January-April 2010

Jacob A. Terry, November 2010-January 2011

- *Visiting Undergraduate Students from Minority Schools hosted*

Marquita Watkins, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS, May-July 2011.