Saarland University is a campus university with an international focus and a strong research profile. Its four core research areas 'Computer Science', 'BioMed – Life and Materials', 'Interdisciplinary European Research' and 'Sustainability' are defining features of the university. With numerous internationally respected research institutes situated in the vicinity of the university and dedicated support for start-up companies, Saarland University is an ideal environment for research, teaching and innovation. The proportion of international students studying at Saarland University is well above the national average and is testimony to the university's strong international focus. Saarland University has been officially certified as a family-friendly university since 2004.

The Faculty of Natural Sciences and Technology at Saarland University brings together numerous disciplines under one organizational umbrella with the aim of fostering interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching, fundamental and exploratory research and in the development of practical applications. The Department of Materials Science and Engineering is active in the key research fields 'Multifunctional Materials and Systems', 'Sustainability and the Circular Economy' and 'Digitalization, Data and AI', all of which are constantly evolving and strongly represented in the faculty's academic curricula, and is a major contributor to the university-wide core research area 'Sustainability'.

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering in the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Technology at Saarland University is inviting applications for the following position to commence on 1 April 2027:

W3 Professorship in Applied Mechanics

(m/f/x; Reference no.: W2677)

This professorial position is a permanent position (lifetime tenure) at the German academic salary scale W3.

The faculty also invites applications in: **Product Development and Circularity-Driven Design** (m/f/x, Reference no. W2765), **Advanced Recycling Processes for Circular Material Flows** (m/f/x, Reference no. W2763), **Functional Materials** (m/f/x, Reference no. W2675) and **Sustainable Metallurgy and Structural Materials in a Circular Economy** (m/f/x, Reference no. W2764). Applicants whose research focus is between any of these areas are encouraged to submit a separate application to each professorship position for which their scientific profile is suitable.

The person appointed to this position will play an active role in shaping Saarland University's newly established core research area 'Sustainability' and will take a leading part in the development of the regional transformation project 'CircularSaar'. This professorship covers the field of Applied Mechanics, with an emphasis on continuum-mechanics modelling of complex multi-field problems in the context of material sustainability and circular material systems. The position complements the department's strategic research priorities, particularly 'Digitalization, Big Data and AI' and 'Sustainability and the Circular Economy'. Potential areas of application include durable material solutions and sustainable production processes in areas such as: physical and chemical methods of separating materials; maximizing yields of secondary materials; recycling processes, efficient product disassembly and dismantling procedures; and intelligent materials sorting systems.

If appointed to this position, you will contribute to core undergraduate teaching modules within the department's Bachelor's and Master's programmes (e.g. Engineering Mechanics, Finite Element Methods, Strength of Materials, and Material Modelling). You will play an active role in the materials science and engineering practical and lab courses and will be closely involved in the ongoing development of relevant degree programmes. In addition, the postholder will undertake academic administrative and committee work at the departmental, faculty and university levels and will support the recruitment and development of early-career researchers. You will engage in interdisciplinary collaboration with the external research institutes IZFP, DFKI, ZeMa, INM and HIPS and you will be actively involved in initiating, preparing and delivering collaborative projects, including regional, national and international research projects. A proven track record in acquiring external research funding and close cooperation with the Department of Systems Engineering are required.

The appointment will be made in accordance with the general provisions of German public sector employment law. Applicants must have a university degree in materials science, materials engineering, mechanical engineering or a related subject, a doctorate (PhD or equivalent) evidencing research of high originality and significance, and must demonstrate a particular capacity for independent academic research, usually evidenced by having obtained an advanced, post-doctoral research degree (Habilitation) or by having published an equivalent volume of peer-reviewed research or by having successfully completed the interim evaluation of a junior professorship or equivalent position. Your academic career to date must demonstrate outstanding scientific expertise in Applied Mechanics through the publication of high-quality scientific papers, regular participation in relevant conferences and proven experience in acquiring and managing external research funding.

The appointment will be made in accordance with the general provisions of German public sector employment law. Please refer to Section 41 of the Saarland Higher Education Act (SHSG, current version available at: https://recht.saarland.de/bssl/document/jlrHSchulGSLrahmen).

We are seeking to appoint an outstanding candidate with a proven profile in continuum-mechanics modelling. The focus of your research should be on coupled multi-field problems, for example the interaction of diffusion, mechanical stresses and chemical driving forces. The aim is to develop rigorous and robust modelling approaches that can be used to address complex challenges in the fields of sustainability and circular material systems. We expect a strong commitment to university-level teaching (documented, for example, by positive teaching evaluations) and the ability to work well in a team (as evidenced, for example, by successful participation in collaborative projects and active involvement in academic committee work). You must have good communication skills in written and spoken German and English.

Saarland University views internationalization as a process spanning all aspects of university life. We therefore expect members of our professorial staff to promote and foster further internationalization. Special support will be provided for projects that expand collaboration within existing international cooperative networks, e.g. projects with partners in the European University Alliance Transform4Europe (www.transform4europe.eu) or the University of the Greater Region (www.uni-gr.eu).

In accordance with the objectives of its gender equality plan, Saarland University is actively seeking to increase the proportion of women in this field. Qualified women candidates are therefore strongly encouraged to apply. Preferential consideration will be given to applications from disabled candidates of equal eligibility. Furthermore, we welcome applications from all qualified candidates irrespective of nationality, ethnic heritage or social background, religious beliefs, personal beliefs or values, age, sexual orientation or identity.

Please complete the application form in Saarland University's online professorial appointments portal (**www.uni-saarland.de/berufungen**) and submit it and your application documents by no later than **28 May 2026**. Application documents must be uploaded as a single PDF file (max. size 10 MB) and should include the following documents in the order specified:

- Cover letter setting out your motivation and suitability for the role
- CV (incl. list of external research funding and awards)
- List of publications
- Detailed listing of external research funding secured
- Overview of research (previous work and research planned at Saarland University, max. 5 pages)
- Teaching credentials (list of previous courses taught incl. evaluations, explanatory outline of your teaching concept and approach; max. 5 pages)
- Academic qualifications (undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD/doctoral degree certificates, habilitation (if applicable) and other relevant credentials)
- Full copies of your three most important publications.
- Proof of disability if you declared a disability in your application
- If you hold a university degree from a non-German university, please provide proof of equivalence from Germany's Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) if available. If you have not yet requested proof of equivalence from ZAB, you must submit proof at a later date if so requested.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University, you will be transmitting personal data. Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (www.uni-saarland.de/en/privacy).By submitting your application, you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.