## **Supporting Information**

## Template Growth of Au, Ni and Ni-Au Nanoclusters on Hexagon Boron

## Nitride/Rh(111): A Combined STM, TPD and AES Study

Fanglue Wu<sup>1\*</sup>, Dali Huang<sup>1</sup>, Yuan Yue<sup>1</sup>, Li Liu<sup>1</sup>

1. Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3003

\*Corresponding authors: (Fanglue Wu) flwu@tamu.edu, Tel 979-255-8907



Figure S1: Scanning tunneling microscopy analysis of Au and Ni-Au clusters deposited and imaged at room temperature on h-BN/Rh(111). Tunneling parameters:  $V_{sample}=1.0$  V,  $I_{tunneling}=100$  pA. (a) 0.05ML Au/h-BN/Rh(111), 100 nm×100 nm; (b) 0.05ML Ni/0.05 ML Au/h-BN/Rh(111), (Au deposited first), 100 nm×100 nm.

For low surface coverage 0.05ML Au/h-BN/Rh(111), all clusters are single layers (1.5±0.1 Å

in height) with template confinement into the nanomesh pores (diameters of the Au clusters1.75±0.25 nm). After depositing Ni (0.05 ML) on 0.05 ML Au/h-BN/Rh(111), Ni-Au bimetallic clusters are formed (Figure S1b).