



INCORPORATING



Helping people to care for our ocean

Applications are invited for the position of:

Research Assistant X 2

(Genetics Laboratory)

The Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), a division of the South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR) requires a competent person to undertake a Research Assistant role in the Genetics Laboratory with the intent of starting a PhD project at ORI in 2025. The advertised position is for a fixed-term contract of six (6) months, to assist with DNA extraction and PCR of zooplankton samples for metabarcoding projects related to the biogeographical study of pelagic ecosystems around the South African coast and within the Marion Island MPA.

The responsibilities will include:

- Handling of zooplankton samples preserved in ethanol;
- DNA extraction from mixed samples and individual samples;
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) of DNA extracts;
- Preparing PCR products for next-generation sequencing and Sanger sequencing;
- Uploading DNA barcode records to BOLD; and
- Assisting in the upkeep of a modern genetics laboratory.
- Literature review of metabarcoding in biogeographical surveys, in preparation for a PhD

The following will be required of the successful applicant:

- A recent MSc degree which included use of, or training, in genetics or molecular biology;
- Experience in a genetics laboratory, especially with maintaining a sterile environment, DNA extractions and PCR; and
- Demonstrated ability to follow and adhere to research protocols.

Submit your Curriculum Vitae and letter of motivation by either:

- E-mail: kramsaroop@saambr.org.za
- Hand Delivery: The South African Association for Marine Biological Research
1 King Shaka Avenue, Durban

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 19 JUNE 2024

Appointments will be made in line with SAAMBR's employment equity requirements. SAAMBR reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Only potential short-list candidates will be contacted. Should you not have heard from us by **30 June 2024**, please consider your application unsuccessful.

SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH (RF) NPC

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SAAMBR is a Non Profit Company and a member of: IUCN (World Conservation Union) and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

Accredited member of PAAZA (Pan-African Association of Zoos and Aquaria).

ORI is academically affiliated to the University of KwaZulu-Natal