MARIS
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Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Marine and Antarctic Research centre for Innovation and Sustainability (MARIS), University of Cape Town, South Africa

Preamble

MARIS is the new dedicated Centre for interdisciplinary marine research at the University of Cape Town. It brings together the expertise of multiple departments, namely Oceanography and Biological Sciences in the Faculty of Science and the Chemical, and Electrical Engineering Departments in the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment.

Purpose

MARIS is a consortium partner of the project AtlantECO (https://www.atlanteco.eu/), funded by the H2020 framework of the European Commission. The project aims to develop and apply a novel, unifying framework that provides knowledge-based resources for a better understanding and management of the Atlantic Ocean and its ecosystem services.

Call for applications

An opportunity exists for a Postdoctoral Research Fellow to contribute to the project's Work Package 6 "Advances in Model Predictability". The Fellow's research will contribute specifically to the development of an advanced coupling method for simulating the transport and dynamics of metagenomics data in marine models, based on a novel Lagrangian approach proposed by Paparella and Vichi (2020). The activity is interdisciplinary since it will require the use of metagenomics data from the Benguela region and their use in numerical models.

The Conditions of the Award are as follows:

i. The postdoctoral research fellowship is only available to individuals who have achieved the doctoral degree within the past 5 years.
ii. Applicants may not previously (since achieving the PhD) have held full-time professional or academic positions

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications and to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all

iii. No services beyond the scope of the research fellowship are required in return for the Postdoctoral Fellowship award.
iv. No benefits or travel allowances are included in the value of the fellowship.
v. The successful incumbent must be prepared to comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector

Value and tenure

The value of the Fellowship is between R300,000 and R350,000 per annum, according to experience. The Fellowship is compliant with SARS policies and rules and is therefore exempt from taxation, meaning that Postdoctoral Research Fellowships must be granted without fringe benefits and no services are required of the successful candidate in return for the Fellowship beyond the agreed research activity.

The Fellowship is tenable for **one year, renewable annually for another year i.e. a total of two years,** depending on academic progress and availability of funds.

Academic Criteria

The candidate must have a completed PhD by the appointment start date and the Fellowship is available only to individuals who have achieved the doctoral degree within the past 5 years.

The candidate must have proven experience with scientific programming and modelling in the field of earth and/or life sciences, data analysis and visualisation. The candidate must also have knowledge in metagenomics, genetic analyses and bioinformatics. A theoretical understanding of oceanographic processes will be considered a plus. Experience with the use of super-computers is necessary. Prior experience with the use of biogeochemical ocean models is preferred but not necessary. The candidate is expected to work both independently and collaboratively as a member of the interdisciplinary MARIS team, under the joint advisory of Prof Marcello Vichi and Dr Emma Rocke, as well as in the framework of the international project. The candidate will be requested to attend project meetings either remotely or in person, depending on prevailing circumstances.

Application Requirements

Applications will close on April 28th 2023, for an expected start date June 1st 2023. To apply, send an email to emma.rocke@uct.ac.za with the subject "AtlantECO post-doc" and attach the following information **in one PDF document**:

1. cover letter describing research experience, interests, and collaborative experience
2. academic curriculum vitae including a list of publications
3. copies of academic transcripts
4. two (2) academic reference letters from referees who have taught, supervised, or worked alongside you.

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Selection Process

Eligible and complete applications will be considered by the Director of MARIS and a sub-committee.

MARIS is committed to equity and to the development of local expertise. This position is particularlytargeting South African and African candidates with proven experience in genetics and numerical modelling.

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