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Applications are invited for a fixed-term contract Research Assistant position at the Oceanographic Research Institute

The Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI), a division of the South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR) requires a competent research assistant to help with several projects focused on the ecology of coral reefs in South Africa. The position is a project-dependent fixed term contract, starting in January 2023.

The projects involve both fieldwork and laboratory work. You will be responsible for assisting with long-term coral monitoring, routine maintenance, using a SeapHOx to measure ocean acidification, water sampling for carbonate chemistry, and accretion tile and nubbin deployment to assess *in situ* accretion, dissolution and bioerosion dynamics. Laboratory work will include the processing and archiving of coral monitoring data (images, GIS digitising, CPCe, photogrammetry, temperature etc.), curation and labelling of specimens, the preparation of material and consumables for fieldwork, management of SeapHOx data, automated titration analyses of water samples, weighing of accretion tiles and nubbins, and calculations of aragonite and calcite accretion based on acidification and weighing techniques. You will also be involved in report writing and the preparing of coral species pages. You will be expected to procure various tools, consumables, and equipment to maintain and facilitate the field and laboratory work.

If you wish to apply for this position, you must meet the following selection requirements:

- An MSc, or proof of submission of an MSc, preferably in marine biology or biological science.
- A Commercial Class IV diving qualification and experience in conducting underwater biological work.
- Willingness to partake in, and availability to be involved in fieldwork over several days away from home.
- Physically fit, with experience working on small boats at sea.
- Familiarity and experience with basic laboratory techniques.
- Familiarity with GIS software, either ArcGIS or QGIS.
- Code B motor vehicle driving license.

As a research assistant you will be expected to assist the Primary Investigator in all aspects of the various projects being undertaken by the ORI Reef Programme where appropriate, as well as other project work from time to time. Furthermore, you will be expected to be self-motivated, meticulous, responsible, highly organised, efficient, and enthusiastic to learn new skills and techniques.

We regret that this position is only open to South African citizens. Should you be interested in the position, please submit your Curriculum Vitae, to the Oceanographic Research Institute, to:

- email: Dr Sean Porter, sporter@ori.org.za.

CLOSING DATE: 07 December 2022

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

Should you not have heard from us by 16 December 2022, 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 the IUCN (World Conservation Union) and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

An accredited member of PAAZA (Pan-African Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

ORI is academically affiliated to the University of KwaZulu-Natal