PhD student in Ecotoxicology Stockholm

Ref. No. SU FV-0229-20


Research and education at Stockholm University’s Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences (DEEP) is located at the Arrhenius Laboratories, within the University Campus at Frescati. Research encompasses a broad range of biological fields including ecology and evolution, ecotoxicology, marine biology, plant physiology and plant systematics. There are currently around 140 people employed at DEEP and research is carried out using state-of-the-art methodologies in an international research environment by world-recognized researchers and a high level of professionalism.

Project description
The Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences invites applications for a four-year PhD position as part of the project "Can cyanobacterial blooms makes fish less toxic?" funded by the Swedish research council Formas.

The project will investigate the contribution of cyanobacterial blooms to fish production and contaminant bioaccumulation in the Baltic Sea. Isotope tracer techniques will be used to quantify how much cyanobacterial blooms, which are favored under a warming climate, contribute to herring growth. The most abundant cyanobacteria in the Baltic is non-toxic and supports secondary production during the summer, when herring is food-limited. At any given size, faster growing fish have lower levels of bioaccumulating contaminants such as dioxins. This project will combine monitoring data and retrospective stable isotope analyses of archived samples of fish and invertebrates with new seasonal sampling and bioenergetics models. This will allow for predictions of fish growth and contaminant bioaccumulation under varying environmental conditions. In doing so we will establish threshold levels for cyanobacterial blooms where positive effects on fish production and the bioaccumulation of contaminants can be expected.

Qualification requirements
In order to meet the general entry requirements, the applicant must have completed a second-cycle degree, completed courses equivalent to at least 240 higher education credits, of which 60 credits must be in the second cycle, or have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

In order to meet the specific entry requirements, the general syllabus for doctoral studies in the field of Ecotoxicology stipulates, that applicants must have completed at least 60 higher education credits in the second cycle of which 15 credits must be from a course in Ecotoxicology, and 30 credits from a project in Ecotoxicology or, since the project is transdisciplinary, in marine biology or fish ecology. Applicants may also have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

The qualification requirements must be met by the deadline for applications.

Selection
Selection criteria include knowledge of theory and applications in the research field (ecotoxicology), and relevant to the research project; ability to communicate in English (orally and in writing), creativity, analytic competence, initiative, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team. Especially meriting is experience with stable isotopes, fish ecology, statistical modelling and/or programming in R. Field work during the summer at Askö field station will be necessary. A driving license and interest in teaching is positive.

Admission Regulations for Doctoral Studies at Stockholm University are available at: www.su.se/rules and regulations.

Terms of employment
Only a person who will be or has already been admitted to a third-cycle programme may be appointed to a
doctoral studentship.

The term of the initial contract may not exceed one year. The employment may be extended for a maximum of two years at a time. However, the total period of employment may not exceed the equivalent of four years of full-time study.

Doctoral students should primarily devote themselves to their own education, but may engage in teaching, research, and administration corresponding to a maximum of 20% of a full-time position.

Please note that admission decisions cannot be appealed.

Stockholm University strives to be a workplace free from discrimination and with equal opportunities for all.

**Contact**
For more information, please contact project leader Agnes Karlson, telephone: +46 8 16 12 46, agnes.karlson@su.se. Further information about the position can be obtained from the Subject Representative Jonas Gunnarsson, telephone: +46 (0) 70 576 24 21, jonas.gunnarsson@su.se.

**Union representatives**
Ingrid Lander (Saco-S) and Lisbeth Hägberg (Fackförbundet ST and Lärarförbundet), telephone: +46 8 16 20 00 (operator), seko@seko.su.se (SEKO), and PhD student representative, doktorandombud@sus.su.se.

**Application**
Apply for the position at Stockholm University's recruitment system by clicking the "Apply" button. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete in accordance with the instructions in the job advertisement, and that it is submitted before the deadline. We recommend that you hand in your application, including necessary documents, in English.

Please include the following information with your application

- Your contact details and personal data
- Your highest university degree
- Your language skills
- Contact details for 2–3 reference persons

and, in addition, please include the following documents

- Cover letter (2–3 pages), containing
  - Your expectations from, and intentions with the education
  - Why you are interested in the specific project
  - What makes you suitable for the specific project
- CV – degrees and other completed courses, work experience and a list of degree projects/theses
- Degree certificates and grades confirming that you meet the general and specific entry requirements (no more than 6 files)
- Degree projects/theses (no more than 6 files).

The instructions for applicants are available at: Instructions – Applicants.

**You are welcome to apply!**

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**Closing date:** 24/02/2020

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