PhD student position in marine biodiversity and ecosystem functioning across spatial scales

Ref PAR 2020/1486

The University of Gothenburg tackles society’s challenges with diverse knowledge. 37,000 students and 6,000 employees make the university a large and inspiring place to work and study. Strong research and attractive study programmes attract scientists and students from around the world. With new knowledge and new perspectives, the University contributes to a better future.

The University of Gothenburg promotes equal opportunities, equality and diversity.

The department of Marine science

Our teaching and research range from the water circulation under the polar ice to biogeochemical flows in the deep sea, and from shallow sea grass meadows to deep reefs of cold-water coral. In these environments, we study different levels of biological organization from genes, individuals and populations, to societies and ecosystems; circulation of chemical substances; water exchange; and sediments as an environmental archive. The areas of biology, chemistry, oceanography, geology and cultural heritage combine to understand the consequences of natural and anthropogenic changes in the environment. The department is responsible for the bachelor and master programs in marine sciences, but our teachers are also part of other programs at the Faculty of Science. The department is located on the main campus in Gothenburg and at the two marine research stations at Tjärnö and Kristineberg (www.marine.gu.se).

Project description

We are seeking a curious and enthusiastic PhD student to work with questions relating to the functional consequence of changes in marine biodiversity. You will join the Functional Biodiversity Lab at the Department of Marine Sciences, University of Gothenburg. Our current main focus is to better understand the consequences of biodiversity change as we move across multiple spatial scales. Visit our lab web page www.gamfeldt.se for more information about our research.

The PhD student will work within a 4-year project recently funded by the Swedish Research council. While the specific research questions are to be developed in discussion between student and supervisor, the successful candidate will use the rocky shore as model system. Studies will likely include both field- and outdoor lab experiments at Tjärnö Marine Laboratory (www.gu.se/en/tjarno). Experimental studies can be complemented with theoretical work.

You should have four years of university courses (a Bachelor plus one year’s credits at the second-cycle level (https://www.gu.se/en/doctoral-studies/eligibility-and-rules) in ecology or marine biology (or equivalent), and a broad interest in general ecological questions. Experience in, or interest in learning, (i) the flora and fauna of Swedish rocky shores, (ii) statistics, (iii) modelling, and (iv) the software R, is important. Merit-wise, curiosity and enthusiasm are as important as grades. Being able to work both independently and with other people in a group is a prerequisite. Before submitting an application, please make sure that your background and interests align well with the research we do in our group. Applications that do not fit, or are only tangent to, the above listed criteria, will not be considered.

A Swedish PhD education is four years, with extensions for teaching and parental leave. More information is provided here: https://medarbetarportalen.gu.se/doktorand/din-anstallning/?languageId=100001
Duties

Main duties as a PhD candidate include, but are not limited to:

- Field- and/or lab experiments. Planning, executing, analysing data.
- Taking courses.
- Writing peer-reviewed papers.
- Finalise thesis.

Qualifications/merits

Read under "Project description " above in the advertisement.

Type of employment

Fixed-term employment, 4 years (extensions may be available if the candidate teaches in the department)
Extent: 100%
Location: Department of Marine Sciences in Gothenburg.

Application

The application should include:

- Compiled into one file (pdf or Word):
  o A personal letter (max 1 page). Explain why you want to pursue a PhD in ecology with our group, and why you would be a great fit for the project. The letter is your opportunity to describe your passion for ecology and biodiversity science.
  o CV (max 2 pages).
  o Contact details to a minimum of two references. These can be former/current supervisors, former employers, etc. Provide affiliation, e-mail and phone number. There is no need to attach actual reference letters. If you are short-listed for the position we may ask for a written statement from your references.
- University transcripts showing the courses you have taken.

Eligibility

The qualifications for education on a doctoral level are: a Masters level degree or similar, at least 240 university points, of which 60 are on an advanced level, or similar knowledge acquired in another way within or outside the country of Sweden. Candidates currently based on any country are welcome to apply. The starting date is negotiable.

For further information about the position

For further information about the position please contact senior lecturer Lars Gamfeldt at e-mail lars.gamfeldt@marine.gu.se

Union representatives at the University of Gothenburg:

http://www.gu.se/english/about_the_university/job- opportunities/union-representatives

How to apply

In order to apply for a position at the University of Gothenburg, you have to register an account in our online recruitment system, and submit the following documents in English:

In connection to this recruitment, we have already decided which recruitment channels we should use. We therefore decline further contact with vendors, recruitment and staffing companies.
Closing date: 2021-01-17

Information for international applicants

Choosing a career in a foreign country is a big step. Thus, to give you a general idea of what we and Gothenburg have to offer in terms of benefits and life in general for you and your family/spouse/partner please visit:

https://www.gu.se/en/about-the-university/welcome-services
https://www.movetogothenburg.com/

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Salary is determined on an individual basis.

Applications will be destroyed or returned (upon request) two years after the decision of employment has become final. Applications from the employed and from those who appeal the decision will not be returned.

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Apply