Research Fellow, Climefish project
School of Biological Sciences

Closing date: 10 October 2019
Interview date: TBC
Reference number: SBS069R
Introduction

Climefish is a European funded (H2020) research project that investigates the impact of climate change on European fisheries and provides tools to mitigate for risks of future aquatic food production. The School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen, is looking for an enthusiastic marine scientist to finalise its scientific contributions to this project as it draws to a close.

The School of Biological Sciences is a vibrant and dynamic centre, internationally renowned for excellence both in teaching and research. Hosting over one hundred academic and research staff, 120 research students, 80 postgraduate taught students and 400 undergraduates; it is a close knit and friendly community. Based on the main campus at Kings College, the School also has facilities at the Cromarty Lighthouse, a field station at Bettyhill and a presence at the National Decommissioning Centre at Newburgh.

The School is proud of its legacy in delivering research led teaching in fields that include; Biology, Marine Biology, Zoology and Environmental Science. Teaching, training and research in the field highlight the locational advantage of Aberdeen.

The School’s research portfolio is based on four pillars; Evolution, Ecology, Environment and Physiology and investigators are able to and are incentivised to work across these units. This leads to innovative science addressing local, national and international challenges. The School is partner in three Doctoral Training Partnerships (2 NERC funded – QUADRAT & SUPER and 1 BBSRC funded – EASTBIO) and is able to attract the highest quality research students.

The School has excellent molecular biology and analytical chemistry facilities, a Centre for Genome Enabled Biology and Medicine, a proteomics facility, FACS and Histology labs. The School also is home to a research aquarium (freshwater and marine); alongside a challenge facility and a zebrafish aquarium. There are extensive glasshouse research facilities to reflect a range of global climates.

In the last Research Assessment Exercise, the School was confirmed as one of the top UK institutions for research in the biological and environmental sciences. Over 55% of the School’s research activity was graded as being of world leading and internationally excellent in terms of originality, significance and rigour.

A key strength of the School is the breadth of coverage. For example, the pillar of Ecology includes Ocean Biology, Population Ecology, Community Ecology and Conservation Ecology. Physiological areas include Mammalian, Fish and Parasite host interactions. The Environmental pillar includes Plant/Soil/Microbial interactions and Environmental Change.

A great deal of research operates alongside stakeholder and we cooperate closely with the James Hutton Institute, Marine Scotland Science, Various CEH stakeholders as well as other government agencies, charities and commercial companies. These organisations are all active members of our DTP.
Job description

Main purpose of the role:

The School of Biological Sciences is seeking to recruit a short term post in marine biology, at post doctoral researcher level, with expertise in marine ecology. The main purpose of the role is to satisfy reporting requirements for the European funded Climefish project and to contribute to research associated with this project. Applicants should have strong numeracy and literacy skills and have a track record of working with international partners to deliver written reports and scientific articles.

The successful candidate will have a PhD and will have delivered research outputs or other outcomes appropriate to the discipline. The candidates must also demonstrate an ability to supervise graduate students and should provide evidence of successful collaborations with other research teams/institutions.

The post-holders will join an enthusiastic and engaged group of marine scientists with a track record of high quality research, team teaching, and a growing cohort of undergraduate and postgraduate students: the school is part of two new NERC Doctoral Training Partnerships (SUPER & QUADRAT). The post holder will be encouraged to build on existing collaborations with colleagues working in Aberdeen’s extensive marine science community, particularly Marine Scotland Science’s Marine Laboratory, but also the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, and Scottish Natural Heritage. International collaboration is also important as the Climefish project has many European partners. The school is also part of the Marine Alliance for Science and Technology Scotland (MASTS) which provides additional opportunities for collaboration.

Key responsibilities:

Research Fellow

- Draft scientific articles in collaboration with existing European partners.
- Draft project workpackage and final reports
- Co-supervise a PhD student
- Develop follow on research proposals
- Attend project meetings (in Europe)
- Assist in the preparation of presentation materials

At a glance

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<tr>
<th>Salary:</th>
<th>£33,797 pro rata per annum</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hours of work:</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
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<td>Contract type:</td>
<td>Available until 31 March 2020</td>
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Candidate background

Applications are invited from candidates who can demonstrate a good research profile, as evidenced by publications in academic conferences and journals. Candidates must also demonstrate the potential for collaborating with European partners, providing evidence of working with international teams.

Some experience in demonstrating and student supervision is desirable.

Terms of appointment

Salary will be paid at the rate of £33,797 pro rata per annum on the Grade 6 salary scale and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 12 month probation period.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This post does not meet the minimum requirements as issued by UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) to qualify for an employer-sponsored visa. We are therefore unable to consider applications from candidates for this post who require sponsorship to work in the UK.
# Person specification

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<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic, technical and professional education and training</strong></td>
<td>• PhD in a relevant area of Biological Sciences</td>
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<td><strong>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</strong></td>
<td>• Record of publications in international conferences and journals (commensurate with career stage).</td>
<td>• Experience of presenting at national and international conferences, and similar events.</td>
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<td>eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research</td>
<td>• Research profile with ability to develop and lead research projects (commensurate with career stage).</td>
<td>• Experience of University teaching, supervision of students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels (commensurate with career stage).</td>
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<td>• Ability to provide supervision to doctoral students.</td>
<td>(commensurate with career stage).</td>
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<th>Personal qualities and abilities</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills</td>
<td>• Excellent written, oral and presentation skills.</td>
<td>• Ability to participate in appropriate national and international research networks.</td>
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<td>• Ability to think creatively and innovatively and impart enthusiasm for the subject.</td>
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<td>• Excellent organisational skills.</td>
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<td>• Excellent networking skills in order to develop strong relationships with external partners and with academics and researchers from other institutions.</td>
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<td>• Demonstrable ability to work well as part of team.</td>
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<td>• Ability to work with minimum supervision and act on own initiative.</td>
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<th>Other</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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<td>eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</td>
<td>• Willing to travel nationally and internationally in support of research.</td>
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The University

*Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland’s third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is ‘open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others’.*

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies.

The University has over 14,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world’s leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.
The city and the region

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the oil capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Gatwick, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) and Frankfurt as well as flights to other European destinations. http://www.aberdeenairport.com Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to www.visitabdn.com
How to apply

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 10 October 2019

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:
Prof. Paul Fernandes, Lead PI Climefish
01224 274166
fernandespg@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Fernades

Please quote reference number SBS069R on all correspondence

The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.