

### PhD position: phytoplankton biodiversity

At the Department of Biology, University of Oslo, Norway (<http://www.bio.uio.no>) a 3 year fellowship is available, starting in August 2009 associated to the project “Diversity and dynamics of marine haptophytes (HAPTODIV)” funded by the Research Council of Norway. An objective of the project is to explore the haptophyte biodiversity in North Atlantic Coastal waters and reveal how distribution in time and space are controlled by abiotic and biotic factors. The project is a collaboration between the Universities of Oslo (UiO) and Bergen (UiB), Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA) in Oslo and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in France. The PhD research fellow will be affiliated to the research program Marine Biology at Department of Biology (<http://www.bio.uio.no/mb>), but the work will also be performed in close collaboration with the other project partners.

There will be appointed two persons as PhD research fellow associated to the project, one at UiO and one at UiB. The PhD research fellow appointed at UiO will primarily work with algae whereas the appointed at UiB will work with viruses. The research work will consist of both lab and field work and it will be possible with a 3-months research stay at CNRS, Station Biologique de Roscoff in France. The tasks include isolation and characterisation of new haptophyte strains, particularly within the order Prymnesiales, and their viruses. Molecular methods for identification and quantification of algae and algal viruses will be developed and these methods will then be applied on natural sea water samples collected during the field work.

The positions must be applied for separately at the respective institutions.

Applicants must have a Master of Science or equivalent degree in Biology, preferably with specialty in marine botany, marine biology, microbiology or molecular systematics. Experience in the use of molecular biological techniques (PCR, sequencing, cloning etc.), electron microscopy and algal culturing will strengthen the application. Knowledge in microalgal biology, marine biology, ecology, molecular biology, statistics and bioinformatics are also relevant.

Full details for the UiO position can be found at the website: <http://www.admin.uio.no/opa/ledige-stillinger/2009/vitenskapelige/PhDresearchfellowMNFAK-2009-7230.html>

I would appreciate it if you could bring this to the attention of any potential applicants at your university/research institute.

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