

Researcher Job Details

Research Assistant / Research Associate School of Natural and Environmental Sciences Faculty of Science, Agriculture & Engineering

Research Role Profile

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As part of our commitment to career development for research staff, the University has developed 3 levels of [research role profiles](#). These profiles set out firstly the generic competences and responsibilities expected of role holders at each level and secondly the general qualifications and experiences needed for entry at a particular level.

Specific Responsibilities of Position

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1. Interrogate previous work and the background scientific literature to set the context for the study.
2. Develop an understanding of microplastic ingestion by zooplankton, and extraction and analysis methods required to study this effectively.
3. Plan and run technical advisory panels with experts in the field to interrogate methodologies and maximise the project outputs.
4. Attend taxonomic training for zooplankton identification
5. Process historic zooplankton samples from the Dove Time Series, identifying species presence and abundances.
6. Extract and analyse microplastics from zooplankton samples.
7. Work with the PI and collaborators to understand the patterns of microplastic prevalence within zooplankton over long timescales in the North Sea.
8. Prepare project reports and scientific publications where applicable.
9. Prepare and deliver teaching based on this area of expertise.
10. Actively participate as a member of the team which will involve attending and contributing to relevant meetings, providing relevant and timely information, in order to aid decision making.

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Person Specification

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		Essential or Desirable
	Qualifications	
1	Degree in relevant science discipline (Biology, Chemistry)	E
2	Masters in relevant science discipline (Biology, Chemistry)	D for Research Assistant
3	PhD in relevant science discipline (Biology, Chemistry)	E for Research Associate
	Knowledge, Skills and Experience	
1	Experience of researching microplastics	E
	Knowledge and experience of plastic polymer analysis (especially FT-IR equipment)	D
2	Experience of collecting and managing scientific data	E
3	Experience using appropriate scientific software, i.e. Minitab, Primer, etc.	E
4	Experience of working in a laboratory research environment	E
5	Experience of the scientific publication process	D
6	Excellent interpersonal and communication skills	E
7	Ability to analyse and interporate results	E
8	Ability to produce scientific reports and disseminate information in a variety of formats	E
9	Experience of zooplankton sample processing and taxonomy	D
	Experience of running a Flow-Cam machine for zooplankton identification	D
	Attributes/Behaviours	
1	Willing to develop new skills	E
2	High level of self motivation and enthusiasm	E
3	Team player	E
4	Interest in marine environments	D
5	High level of analytical and problem solving capacity	E
6	A high level of organisation and time management skills with the ability to pay attention to detail and prioritise own workload	E

HR Office Use Only	
SAP Position Number:	
Grade:	F
Effective Date:	24/09/2018