

PhD studentship at the Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland

A PhD studentship funded by the European Union through the Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) Metal-Aid (<http://nanogeoscience.dk/metalaid/>) is available at the University of Iceland (Reykjavik, Iceland). Metal-Aid is designed to address the problem of contaminated water sites across Europe and involves 11 different beneficiaries throughout Europe. The project starts on July 1, 2016 and runs for four years. Over the course of the project, Metal-Aid will train 14 PhD students, they will spend considerable time working in various laboratories within the network. And they will receive full salary and mobility cost for 36 months.

Field of work

The project hosted at Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland entitled “Retention of heavy metals by Fe oxides in peat areas”, will focus on the mobility of metals in soil, aquifer materials and long term behaviour using field work, laboratory experiments and modelling. The PhD student will characterise fluids and identify solids in Icelandic peats and the fluids leaching from them to determine the degree of metal uptake by Fe oxides formed in nature by oxidation. The PhD student will experimentally quantify metal release from peat Fe oxides during pH and salinity variation and phase transformation resulting from partial Fe reduction. This will define the role of Fe oxides in regulating heavy metal content in surface waters.

Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland (<http://earthice.hi.is/>) is the main site of academic research in earth sciences in Iceland. The Institute provides research facilities for about 30 teaching and research faculty members, five Nordic research fellows, several postdoctoral fellows and about 50 graduate students. The candidate’s advisor will be Sigurdur Reynir Gíslason (<https://notendur.hi.is/sigrq/>) who will give further information if needed.

Qualification requirements

Applicants are required to have a BSc degree in geology or chemistry and background in geochemistry, modelling (PHREEQC), hydrogeology or mineralogy. Facility with English is required. There will be considerable travel for meetings and secondments. The candidate must have, or soon receive, a MSc-degree that permits entrance to a PhD program. The applicant must not have a PhD or more than 4 years research experience after receiving the MSc degree. The candidate must not have lived for more than 12 months during the past 3 years in Iceland.

The position will start in September 2016.

How to apply

Applications must include: i) your CV (and if you have any publications, please include them), ii) names and contact information for 3 references, iii) a copy of your list of courses and grades from bachelor and masters; a copy is sufficient; an official translation is not necessary at this stage, iv) a half page about your research interests, and your strength, v) a half page (maximum) statement explaining why you would like to join us and what you have to offer the Metal-Aid Project.

Appointments to positions at the University of Iceland are made in consideration of the Equal Rights Policy of the University of Iceland.

The salary for the position will be in accordance with the grant and salary agreement between the Union of University Teachers and the Minister of Finance.

At the School of Engineering and Natural Sciences 360 people are employed in research and teaching. The School offers an international environment, with the number of international employees and students increasing each year. Currently 25% of all employees and postgraduate students are international. There are around 2300 students at the School, divided into six faculties, thereof are 350 graduate students and 150 doctoral students. Research institutes at the school are the Science Institute that divides into the Institute of Earth Sciences and Institute of Physical Sciences, Institute of Life and Environmental Sciences, Engineering Research Institute and the Institute for Sustainability Studies which is an interdisciplinary institute and belongs to the five schools of the University of Iceland.

The University of Iceland is the largest teaching, research and science institute in Iceland and is ranked among the top 300 universities in the world by Times Higher Education.

Information on the University of Iceland can be found [here](#) and more information can be found at the [International office](#).

Further information

Sigurður Reynir Gíslason (<https://notendur.hi.is/sigrg/>)

Deadline

The application deadline is through the 11th July, 2016

