LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

August 2019

NEKTON

Nekton's mission is to explore the deep ocean to help catalyse its sustainable governance.

A UK-registered charity based in Oxford, Nekton completed two major expedition into the deep ocean around Bermuda and West Atlantic in 2016, and Seychelles in 2019, using the latest submersibles and deep-sea technology to carry out a pioneering health check on the ocean. Our Missions provide the scientific data and media content to amplify ocean prioritisation, accelerate ocean literacy and inform and catalyse sustainable marine governance. Through our expeditions, technology development, ground-breaking research, published discoveries, broadcast films and high profile communications and events, we aim to make a difference.

THE ROLE

Nekton is looking for a Laboratory Technician to work in our laboratory in Oxford. They will be primarily expected to work on zooplankton samples collected during Nekton's expedition in Seychelles in March-April 2019 and upcoming expeditions in the Indian Ocean in 2020-2021. They will also take responsibility for health and safety of laboratory science activities, as well as manage other day-to-day lab activities such as ordering and servicing of equipment. Additional duties might include co-supervision of interns and other visiting students for particular time, as well as help with aspects of ongoing science projects.

DETAILS

Start	12.08.2019 or shortly thereafter
Location	Begbroke Science Park, Oxford
Salary	£23,334–£26,243 per annum (dependent on experience)
Hours of work	Full time
Contract type	Permanent; 3months probation
Reporting to	Dr Lucy Woodall (Principal Scientist) and Dr Paris Stefanoudis (Postdoc Researcher)
Staff reporting to this post	At times laboratory interns
Working with	Science Team (Nekton and University of Oxford) & Science Collaborators internationally

Note: Due to the short period of time leading up to the required start date, the position is open only to UK and EU nationals

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sorting zooplankton samples under binocular microscopes
- Health and Safety management of the laboratory
- Servicing of all laboratory equipment
- Responsible for day-to-day laboratory tasks and record keeping
- Stocktake and maintenance of scientific gear and consumables stored or used in the lab
- Assist with management of laboratory team, consisting of research interns or other visiting students
- Teaching basic microscope skills to other members of the laboratory
- Training members of the team in the identification of common zooplankton fauna
- Provide support for Nekton science activities led by other members of the research team

KEY ATTRIBUTES

We are looking for someone who is self-motivated and efficient, with skills in marine zooplankton taxonomy. Previous experience in laboratory management and/or supervision is preferable but not a pre-requisite. As public communication is an important aspect of the Nekton philosophy, you will be happy to occasionally take part in filming and other

communications activities. This is a laboratory-based position so it is expected that the post-holder will be based at Nekton's headquarters in Oxford, UK. Depending on the candidate's experience and skills, there will be opportunities to lead specific aspects of science projects independently, as well as participate in peer-reviewed publications. Travel to external meetings might be required on occasion.

ESSENTIAL

- BSc in Marine Science related subject
- Demonstrable zooplankton identification skills
- Experience working in a laboratory environment
- Experience working with stereomicroscopes and ability to teach others to use it
- Able to communicate scientific concepts to non-science audiences

DESIRABLE

- Master of Science in marine-related discipline
- Experience with laboratory Health and Safety and other aspects of laboratory management
- Experience in providing supervision of research interns and oversight of small-scale research projects

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this position please send you cv with a covering letter explaining why you think you would be a good fit for this role to paris@nektonmission.org by 12:00 GMT on 19.07.2019. Interviews will take place on the 22nd of July. Please note: Due to the short period of time leading up to the required start date, the position is open only to UK and EU nationals. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.