



Postdoc position

Building a legacy of narratives of datasets on environmental change in Svalbard

We are looking for a postdoc who can build a legacy on co-created narratives from Svalbard that link scientific measurements with local experiences. The position is available at the Arctic Centre of the University of Groningen at the Faculty of Arts.

The Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen is built on a long-standing tradition of four centuries. Our mission is to be a top-ranking faculty with both an excellent education and world-quality research, with a strong international orientation. We build and share knowledge benefits to society. We work at a modern, broad and international institution, educating over 5,000 Dutch and international students to become forward-looking, articulate and independent academics. We are a diverse team of 700 staff members.

Over fifty years, the Arctic Centre is a multi-disciplinary small research team, focusing on human-environment interaction and the sustainability of the Arctic Anthropocene. It is now embedded in the Groningen Institute of Archeology (GIA). The focus is on the changing Arctic with research disciplines in biology, anthropology, archaeology, pollution, geo-information, history and social science. Members of the Arctic Centre represent the Netherlands in international organizations like working groups of the Arctic Council: AMAP, CAFF, SDWG and PAME and international research planning and collaboration like INTERACT, EU-PolarNet, SIOS and NySMAC (the latter two on Svalbard). The Arctic Centre is unique in The Netherlands and plays a national role in polar research and outreach. It runs the Netherlands Arctic Station on Svalbard and the national Willem Barentsz Network, bringing together Dutch polar researchers. Several large expeditions to Svalbard have been organized, lately with a focus on multi-disciplinarity, under the acronym SEES.nl. Education is also a key activity with a minor on Arctic and Antarctic Studies and several other Arctic courses. More information can be found on <http://www.rug.nl/arcticcentre>.

Project description

People living, working in and exploring part of the Arctic, develop environmental understanding that is multifaceted, complex and relational. However compared with scientific monitoring, such knowledge is rarely utilized. Monitoring programs that capture environmental change are important and receive well-earned attention, but such initiatives typically focus on highly specific parameters. In order to generate holistic knowledge with agency in Arctic areas subject to rapid environmental change, there is a need to systematically map and listen to peoples' narratives about change in the High Arctic. This Postdoc opportunity is part of a Belmont Arctic Resilience-funded international project, named SVALUR, with partners from the US, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden. To advance resilience building and adaptation to current changes in the Arctic region: the archipelago of Svalbard (<https://www.slu.se/svalur>)

Qualifications

The postdoctoral researcher will focus on creating a legacy of the project where narratives and insights into long-term environmental change are combined and monitoring programs become more sensitive to people's lived experiences while optimizing their relevance to stakeholders,

local inhabitants and visitors. The input for the legacy will be built together with a postdoc at SLU and the rest of the SVALUR team and consists of developing methods and capture detailed understanding of environmental change experienced by people living, working or exploring different parts of Svalbard.

We are looking for a highly motivated applicant who preferably holds a PhD in the social science, humanities, media studies, digital journalism or other relevant interdisciplinary fields of research. Familiarity with environmental science or monitoring, experience with stakeholders and knowledge on digital archiving are an advantage. Good interpersonal skills, out of the box thinking, creativity, team work and independence are valued. Good communication in English is essential.

Selection of qualified applicants will be based on an application written in English including a motivation (up to one A4), curriculum vitae and personal references. Please include the names and contact details of three referees in your application. Selected candidates will be subject to an interview.

Work conditions

- place of work: Arctic Centre, University of Groningen
- type of employment: fixed full time employment of 30 months
- starting date: a.s.a.p., the position is immediately available

We offer you in accordance with the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities:

- an appointment for 30 months
- a salary depending on qualifications and work experience from a minimum of € 3,353 (salary scale 10 number 4) to a maximum of € 3,746 (scale 10, number 6 or scale 11, number 0) gross per month for a full-time position
- a holiday allowance of 8% gross annual income an 8.3% year-end bonus and participation in a pension scheme for employees. Favourable tax agreements may apply to non-Dutch applicants
- minimum of 29 holidays and additional 12 holidays in case of full-time employment

We comply with the conditions of employment of the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities. For more detailed information about working conditions and working for the University of Groningen, please check: <https://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/>

Do you want to become a member of our team? Please send your application to us, by submitting a motivation letter, a curriculum vitae.

You can submit your application until 4 January 2020 23:59 Dutch local time (CET) by means of the application form (click on "Apply" below on the advertisement on the university website).

We are an equal opportunity employer that values diversity. We have adopted an active policy to increase the number of female scientists across all disciplines of the university. Therefore, women are encouraged to apply. Our selection procedure follows the guidelines of the Recruitment code (NVP), Unsolicited marketing is not appreciated.

Information

For information you can contact: Dr. Maarten Loonen m.j.j.e.loonen@rug.nl