

News

Funding opportunities for post-graduate research

A number of post-graduate funding opportunities have been advertised at various Universities.

For more information, visit www.gssa.co.za and click on the “funding opportunities” link.

Postgraduate Opportunities in Benthic Ecology and Biodiversity

Institution: University of Cape Town 2007

Topics: Marine invertebrate biodiversity, ecology and/or systematics.

Contact person: Prof Charles Griffiths at UCT (021-6503610)

Email: clgriff@pop.uct.ac.za or Griffith@egs.uct.ac.za

3 MSc studentships: BIOTA - Southern Africa (Phase III)

Each bursary is worth approximately R40000,

but for the latter two bursaries below there are good opportunities to apply for co-funding to raise this to R65000.

Projects:

- 1) Effects of termites (*Macrotermes* spp.) on soil chemistry in Namibia.
- 2) Effects of fog and dew on soil respiration in Namaqualand.
- 3) Effects of fog and dew on plant physiology in Namaqualand.

Deadlines:

Candidates need to be chosen during 2007. The projects can run 2007-2008 or 2008-2009. However, there will be a 'first come first serve' situation. If a suitable candidate applies, he/she will be given the bursary.

Contact: Dr Charles Musil
musil@sanbi.org

Dr Anthony Mills
mills@sanbi.org

Post doc opportunity

Institution: University of Pretoria, Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Science

Required expertise:

Mainly bioinformatics but a person with molecular biology background will also be suitable.

Contact: Dr Marinda C Oosthuizen,
Address: Room 2-20.3, Paraclinical Building, Private Bag X04, Onderstepoort, 0110, South Africa;
Phone: +27 12 529 8390 **Fax:** +27 12 529 8312

Email: oosthuizen@up.ac.za



GSSA Award for outstanding academic achievement

Ms Mariska Labuschagne received the GSSA award for outstanding academic achievement, for the best B Sc. Agric final year student in Grassland Science with best continuous performance during all the years of study with an average of at least 70%. She is currently enrolled as a B Sc. Honours student at

the University of the Free State.

H.A.
Snyman



Farm managers wanted in Giant's Castle, KZN

1 Farm Manager

Exciting position for an experienced and progressive farmer in the Giants Castle area. The farming operation lies on a 1500 hectare property to be developed as an exclusive wildlife/eco/adventure tourist resort. The responsibilities will be for all aspects of the 250ha presently given to mixed vegetable production and plantation timber. Opportunity to introduce new ideas, crops and systems and potentially to transition the farm to organic

production. The possibility of running a domesticated eland herd also exists. Candidates must have proven track record in arable production techniques, modern management skills and a practical knowledge of English and Zulu. Good salary and package with profit share.

2 Assistant Farm Managers

Assistant Farm manager. Answering to the Farm manager an enthusiastic and intelligent assistant is

required for the above enterprise. Perhaps as a first or second position after leaving college, candidates should be able to demonstrate an understanding and ability in commercial arable, timber farming and wildlife management.

Package dependant on experience and interview.

Please send full CV, including salary and benefits expectations for each position to daniel.duffin@muluja.co.uk



Call for nominations for South African Women in Science Awards: GSSA encourages entries

The Department of Science and Technology wishes to recognise the role of women in the development of science and technology in Africa, through its Women in Science Awards. The awards aim to recognise women who have achieved success in the scientific arena, who act as role models for other young women to enter scientific careers, and who have helped contribute to the quality of life of all South Africans.

The awards are generous, and range from cash awards of R50 000 to fellowships for post-doctoral studies.

The awards categories are:

1. Distinguished Woman Scientist Award

This award will be made to a female scientist for her outstanding scientific contribution to the advancement of science and building of the knowl-

edge base within the fields of Natural Sciences or Engineering

2. Distinguished Scientist Award for Contribution to the Improvement of the Quality Of Life of Women: 2007

This award will be made to a scientist (male or female) for his/her outstanding scientific contribution to improvement in the quality of life of women.

3. Best Emerging Young Woman Scientist: 2007

This award will be made to a young female scientist for her outstanding scientific contribution to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base within the fields of Natural Science and Engineering.

L'Oréal South Africa 2007 Fellowships for Women in Science

Two fellowships shall be awarded in the field of

Natural Sciences or Engineering.

Women Scientist Fellowships: 2007

Three awards will be made to women who are currently involved in full-time post-graduate study or research leading towards a Ph.D and who have two years post masters research experience. These awards will recognise outstanding ability and promise in research.

How can you get involved?

The GSSA would like to encourage all readers to download the nomination forms and nominate an outstanding scientist, who could be a colleague, a student or a friend.

The nomination forms and more details of the awards can be downloaded from www.dst.gov.za/wisa/index.php.



1st SAEON Student Symposium

The SAEON Graduate Student Network (GSN) invites Graduate students (Honours, Masters, PhD and Post-doc) doing research that contributes to long-term environmental understanding to submit abstracts for the 1st SAEON Student Symposium

Venue: University of Cape Town
Dates: 11-13 September 2007

A wide variety of subjects will be presented in three days in one location affording the opportunity to explore multiple topics relating to long-term environmental research. We recruited top experts on several aspects of long-term environmental research to give thought provoking plenary talks, field trips (fynbos and marine) and workshops; this will provide you with opportunities to inter-

act with them.

Twenty students will receive full sponsorship from SAEON to cover all costs. These sponsorships are competitive and will be awarded based on individual merits, judged on the basis of the submitted abstracts. The symposium is aimed at students involved in all fields of research regarding long-term environmental knowledge, and especially encourages participants from "non-traditional" fields such as social studies, economics, public health, environmental education.

For further information and abstract submission email Musa at mllmmus001@uct.ac.za

Please visit our website: www.saeon.ac.za/ students
Deadline for abstract submission is 30 June 2007



Position CREW CFR Project Assistant

Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers Project - CREW

One Year Contract, renewable depending on funding and performance; Cape Town. CREW is a national SANBI project that involves civil society volunteers in the monitoring and conservation of threatened plants.

This position calls for an self motivated individual who is passionate about the about South Africa's plant species to provide support to the CREW CFR office with admin duties and assisting the Project manager and Co-ordinator to manage the network of CREW volunteers in the CFR.

Responsibilities include:

- Provide civil society groups with project support materials, including species de-

scriptions, flowering times, Red Data book status, photos/pictures etc

- Input data collected by civil society groups (e.g population numbers, locality information, current threats) into the threatened species database
 - Ensure that plant samples are properly accessioned, keep track of plant samples sent of identification, and provide feedback to civil society groups
 - Prepare threatened plant identification guides for CREW special team field trips
 - Identify plants in the herbarium
- Provide support in organising meetings, fieldtrips and workshops

Prerequisite for appointment is a BSc in Botany or two years' relevant experience in the related field. General computer literacy, with proven competency in MS Office, should form part of the candidate's professional profile. Furthermore, applicants must be able to maintain

sound interpersonal relations and have a good spoken and written command of English and one another official language.

SANBI offers an all-inclusive salary of R90 296.70 per annum. This contract can be renewed annually on the basis of available funding and performance.

Please Note: 1) Applications must be accompanied by a letter motivating why the applicant should be favourably considered for the position and confirming that the minimum qualifications are met. 2) A competency test will be conducted as part of the selection process.

All applications will be considered with the understanding that, in terms of the SANBI Employment Equity Plan, preference will currently be given to candidates from the designated groups.

Applications submitted by employment agencies will not be considered.

SANBI reserves the right not to fill these positions.

Contact Ms Glynnis Oosthuizen on 021 799 8635 or, preferably, forward a concise CV via e-mail to recruitmentct@sanbi.org or 021 762 3229. Postal applications are to be addressed to the Deputy Director: Human Resources, South African National Biodiversity Institute, Private Bag X7, Claremont 7735.

Closing Date: 28 May 2007

Visit www.sanbi.org for more information on the South African National Biodiversity Institute. If no response has been received within 21 days of closing date, candidates may assume that their applications did not succeed.

