

Announcement of Research Fellowship

A research fellowship for a degree holder (“Licenciatura”) is available in the project “Symbiolite - A novel microbial-algal calcification process driven by coral symbiotic algae: Structure, function, ecological role and evolutionary significance” funded by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), with the following conditions.

The fellowship has a duration of 12 months, with the possibility of two renewals of up to 12 months each until the end of the project. The starting date is 01.07.2016, in exclusiveness regime, as regulated by the “Regulamento da Formação Avançada e Qualificação de Recursos Humanos” da Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt>).

Dinoflagellates of the genus *Symbiodinium* are important coral symbionts. Previous work of the team has resulted in the discovery that free-living *Symbiodinium* spp. in culture commonly form calcifying bacterial-algal communities that produce aragonitic spherulites – ‘symbiolites’ – and encase the dinoflagellates as endolithic cells. This discovery offers entirely new perspectives on fundamental questions regarding the life cycle and ecology of these important dinoflagellates.

The objectives to be achieved by the fellow will be the development of research in the area of microbial-algal calcification and will include tasks such as maintenance of dinoflagellate cultures, participation in laboratory experiments on photophysiology and photoprotection, identification of bacterial communities associated with symbiolites as well as data processing and analysis.

Academic profile: Degree in Biology, Marine Biology or related areas. Experience in microbial ecology, phycology, photo-/eco-physiology and molecular genetics are highly desirable.

The allocation of the fellowship is based on the Statute for Research Scholars and the Research Grants Regulation by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), I.P. (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf>) and the Grants Regulation of Scientific Research of the University of Aveiro (Despacho n.º 9887/2005 (2ª série), de 13 de Abril). The fellowship will be €745,00/month + voluntary social security, according to FCT regulations for scientific fellowships in Portugal (<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>). The scholarship is paid monthly through bank transfer.

Applications should send the following documents: Candidate form (available at <http://www.ua.pt/drh>, under Bolseiros/Modelo de Candidatura); Curriculum vitae, Copy of PhD certificate, ID card or Passport, Taxpayer card; motivation letter and names and address of two people who can be contacted as references. Applications should be sent by email or by mail, from 13.05.2016 to 27.05.2016, to the following address: João Serôdio, Department of Biology, University of Aveiro, Campus de Santiago, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal; Email: jserodio@ua.pt

The evaluation will take into account the applicant's merit, curriculum and training profile. In case of equally qualified candidates, interviews will be conducted. The jury responsible for the selection will consist of: Chairman: Prof. Dr. João Serôdio. Other members: Dr. Artur Alves and Dr. Jörg Frommlet (Department of Biology, University of Aveiro, CESAM). The final evaluation results will be communicated to all candidates by e-mail and within the periods prescribed by applicable law.

University of Aveiro, 28.04.2016