

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 national funds from FCT/MCTES and co-financed by FEDER (POCI-01-0145-FEDER-016748), within PT2020, and Compete 2020. with the following conditions.

The fellowship has a duration of 3 months (with the possibility of renewal for an additional 5 months, if the project extension is approved). Starting date is 01.03.2019, 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 family Symbiodiniaceae are important coral symbionts. Previous work of the team has resulted in the discovery that free-living symbiodiniaceans 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.

Applicants should send the following documents: Candidate form (available at <http://www.ua.pt/drh>, under Bolseiros/Modelo de Candidatura); curriculum vitae, copy of degree certificate, copy of ID card or passport, motivation letter and names and addresses of two references.

Applications should be sent by email or by mail, between 25 January 2019 and 8 February 2019, to the following address: João Serôdio, Department of Biology, University of Aveiro, Campus de Santiago, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal; Email: jserodio@ua.pt

The selection criteria is based on: curriculum vitae (40%; considering the marks obtained in the various academic degrees), previous experience in the research field of the project (40%; including publications in the field), and adequacy of the profile for the project (20%). In case of a tie between the 3 candidates with best classifications, an interview will be held. The final classification will be determined as: 50% for the classification bases on previously described items and 50% for interview.

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, 11.01.2019