

Postdoctoral position to study coastal biological oceanography in South Africa

Applications are invited for one full-time postdoctoral position held in the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) in Grahamstown, South Africa. The interdisciplinary project uses ecological, oceanographic, and molecular techniques to study nearshore pathways of larval dispersal and connectivity on the south coast of South Africa. Oceanographically, this region is complex and is influenced by the Agulhas Current and wind-driven processes. This position is funded by the African Coelacanth Ecosystem Programme (ACEP).

Grahamstown is based in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa, approximately 1.5 hours east of Port Elizabeth. This region is known for its game reserves, white sand beaches, and festivals. Grahamstown has a strong tradition in marine research and hosts Rhodes University, SAIAB and programmes such as ACEP, the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON).

Candidates should preferably have a PhD in ocean sciences. The successful applicant will be responsible for the physical oceanographic component of the project using physical data collected from a fully equipped 13m research vessel. The position will involve collecting, processing and analyzing *in situ* data in collaboration with biologists, writing scientific publications for peer review, and presenting results at national and/or international conferences. Teaching/mentorship opportunities may be possible for the right candidate. Experience using satellite data and/or modelling physical oceanographic data would be an advantage.

The successful applicant will work in a multidisciplinary team led by Dr Francesca Porri (SAIAB). Other team members include Prof Christopher McQuaid (Rhodes University), Prof Peter Teske (University of Johannesburg), Dr Jennifer Jackson (Hakai Institute, Canada), Dr Wayne Goschen (SAEON), Dr Paula Patrick (SAIAB), and postgraduate students. Preferred start date is late 2015 or the latest January 1, 2016, for a 2 year position with possible funding for a 3rd year.

Interested candidates should send a CV (including names of two references) and a letter of motivation to Dr Porri (f.porri@saiab.ac.za). Deadline for submission is October 31, 2015.