



INCORPORATING



SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

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PhD opportunity Oceanographic Research Institute, Durban

Position:

The Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI) herewith invites applications from students interested in taking on a PhD project on spiny lobster connectivity patterns and larval settlement. The project is funded by the PDP programme of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the National Research Foundation (NRF), to the amount of R210 000 per year. A student will be appointed for one year, renewable for up to three years, depending on progress.

Project description:

Molecular methods will be used to investigate genetic connectivity in shallow water lobster *Panulirus homarus* at ocean-wide (South Africa, Mozambique, Madagascar) and local scales. Larval settlement patterns will be investigated by collecting and sequencing drifting larvae. Models of water movements (currents, eddies) will be constructed to simulate larval dispersal patterns in ocean currents and predict population structure.

You will be located at ORI, and register for a PhD at a South African University. The project will be supervised by Prof Johan Groeneveld (ORI) and a co-supervisor.

Qualifications:

Applicants must hold an MSc degree in biological sciences, or must graduate with an MSc early in 2015. A strong background in using genetic analyses to assess population diversity, structure and connectivity will be an advantage. Only South African citizens qualify.

Applications:

If you meet the requirements and would like to apply for the position, please submit your CV, details of at least two referees and a covering letter of motivation to the Oceanographic Research Institute, by either:

- e-mail: jgroeneveld@ori.org.za
- Fax: (031) 3288188
- Hand delivery: Prof Johan Groeneveld, South African Association for Marine Biological Research,
1 King Shaka Avenue, Point, Durban

Enquiries can be made telephonically to (031) 3288180 (office hours) or through email.

ORI reserves the right not to make an appointment to the position as advertised.

CLOSING DATE: 30th November 2014

Should you not have heard from us within 2 weeks of your application, please consider it unsuccessful.