Training course on Biological Oceanography in the framework of Earth System Science


Background: The course, meant for Ph.D. students, will focus on plankton, especially phytoplankton, and their role in pelagic food webs and marine biogeochemical cycles. Lecturers will include scientists from the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa, the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), Germany and the Stazione Zoologica 'A. Dohrn' (SZN), Naples, Italy.

The following themes and methods will be addressed in lectures and course work respectively:

Lectures:
- Nutrient cycles from the coast to open ocean (by S.W.A. Naqvi, NIO)
- Plankton ecology and ocean biogeochemistry (by V. Smetacek AWI/NIO, S.W.A. Naqvi, NIO)
- Phytoplankton ecology, life cycles, species succession and fate of biomass (by M. Montresor, SZN, V. Smetacek, AWI, M. Gauns, NIO)
- Flow cytometry for assessing pico- and nanoplankton (by M. Gauns, NIO)
- Zooplankton species, grazing selection, trophic cascades (by V. Smetacek, AWI/NIO, M. Gauns, NIO)
- Southern Ocean plankton ecology (by P. Assmy, C. Klaas, AWI)
- Iron fertilization experiments (by V. Smetacek, P. Assmy, C. Klaas, AWI & M. Montresor, SZN)

Practicals: Methods for measuring nutrients (C, N, P, Si) and particulate matter (C, N, P, Si) and pigments; Phytoplankton species identification, assessing biomass, measuring growth rates; Flow cytometry; Culturing phyto- and protozooplankton; Methods for estimating grazing; Data analysis and interpretation.

Eligibility: The course is open to a limited number of participants 20 from Indian universities and research institutions.

Application and selection procedure: Please apply with your curriculum vitae before 10 December to Dr Mangesh Gauns (gmangesh@nio.org). Selected candidates will be informed by 15 December 2007.

Registration Fee: Rs 1000 to be paid within ten days after selection. This will cover accommodation cost at NIO Guest House and cost of course material. No TA/DA will be provided for outstation candidates.

MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY
MADURAI 625 021

Applications are invited for the post of a JRF under DST project entitled ‘DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES BASED ON CONJUGATED POLYMERS’ for three years. Qualifications: First Class M.Sc. in Chemistry with a good score in GATE or CSIR–NET examination. Good knowledge in Organic Chemistry is essential. Stipend @ Rs 12,000 + HRA per month as per DST rules. Interested candidates may send their CV on or before 15 December 2007 to

Dr R. Saraswathi
Reader & Head
PI-DST Scheme on Organic Electronics
Department of Materials Science
School of Chemistry
Madurai Kamaraj University
Madurai 625 021
e-mail: saraswathir@yahoo.com