PhD student in evolutionary biology at the University of Leuven, Department of Biology, Laboratory of Biodiversity and Evolutionary

Genomics

BIOLOGICAL REFUGIA OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN We are looking for a highly motivated scientific colleague to join a multidisciplinary and challenging project. Research topic The Southern Ocean (SO) provides a natural laboratory for research on evolution and biodiversity because of its long history and geographic isolation. Confronted with fast-paced environmental changes, Antarctic ecosystems/species/organisms are strongly challenged and face three possible outcomes: adaptation, migration or extinction. Past glaciation periods have forced marine organisms of the SO into refugia, being either ice-free continental shelf areas, the deep sea or peri-Antarctic regions, followed by recolonization when ice retreated. You will try to understand how such past events have driven diversification and adaptation in fishes and how these can be applied as proxies to understand the contemporary situation and predict the future. The Laboratory of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Genomics specialises in research on the evolutionary biology of fishes and their parasites. In a new collaborative research project the refugia of Antarctic fishes will be studied. Profile : - Master in (marine) Biology, Applied Biology or the equivalent with excellent study results - Obligation to prepare a doctoral thesis within 4 years - Interest in fish biology and polar ecosystems - Ready to participate in long sampling campaigns under extreme conditions - Experience or knowledge on genomics - You will apply for an IWT fellowship (http://www.iwt.be/subsidies/sb) in September 2016 We offer excellent coaching in an inspiring research environment with the most up to date research facilities. Interested candidates are requested to submit their application (motivation letter, address of three referees, summary of master thesis and Curriculum Vitae) to the Arenberg Doctoral School https://icts.kuleuven.be/apps/jobsite/domein/9028/9003
before 15

November 2015.

Context: The doctoral research is associated with the BELSPO project vERSO, in collaboration with prof. Filip Volckaert (KU Leuven) and dr. Anton Van de Putte (RBINS). Funding is available for 1 year and following a positive mid-term evaluation for 4 years. The lab is based is in the historical university town of Leuven, Belgium (http://www.leuven.be). Information: prof. Filip Volckaert, phone + 32 16 323972 or E-mail. filip.volckaert@bio.kuleuven.ac.be ; URL: bio.kuleuven.be/eeb/lbeg

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