Senior Science Officer – Integrated Marine Observing System

College/Division Research Division
School/Section Integrated Marine Observing System
Location Hobart
Classification HEO 9
Reporting line Reports to IMOS Director

Position Summary
The University of Tasmania is building a vision of a place-based University with a mission to enhance the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania, and from Tasmania, contribute to the world in areas of distinctive advantage. The University recognises that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ as well as creating a people-centred University that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

We are seeking to appoint a Senior Science Officer for the Integrated Marine Observing System.

The Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) is a national collaborative research infrastructure, supported by the Australian Government. It is operated by a consortium of institutions as an unincorporated joint venture, with the University of Tasmania as Lead Agent (http://imos.org.au/). IMOS provides a national, multi-institutional capability to undertake systematic and sustained observing of the marine environment, from the open ocean onto the continental shelf and into the coast, and across physical, chemical and biological variables. All observations undertaken by IMOS produce data streams that are discoverable, accessible, usable and reusable via the Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN).

IMOS is implemented through a portfolio of platform and technology-based Facilities. Investments in Facilities are guided by Science and Implementation Plans developed by Nodes which collectively represent the Australian marine and climate science community, and its users and stakeholders. There is an open ocean Node, and five regional Nodes covering Australia’s shelf and coastal oceans. IMOS has four performance indicators i.e. 1. deployment and recovery of equipment, 2. availability of data, 3. uptake and use of data, and 4. relevance and impact of science outputs using IMOS observations and data. IMOS Facilities have been highly effective in delivering on indicators 1 and 2, but as IMOS moves into its second decade a more robust and systematic approach to driving data uptake and use is needed.

The Senior Science Officer will work to support and deliver scientific planning, ensure data are used as widely as possible and actively identify and pursue opportunities to increase science collaboration to assist IMOS in meeting its objectives. The Senior Science Officer will have significant responsibility for liaising with the AODN, IMOS Facilities and the scientific community to help ensure that science plans are fulfilled and that observing approaches meet international standards, including data standards. This will include understanding and engaging with IMOS strategic plans as well as national and international science priorities to support IMOS program delivery. The Senior Science Officer will focus in part on identifying and leading areas of scientific synergy or benefits of additional data streams to increase the use and application of IMOS data.

The Senior Science Officer will work closely with the Director and IMOS office staff to monitor science quality and delivery, data use and uptake, opportunities for data use in novel applications, identify strategic science directions IMOS may pursue and help develop funding applications. This position will also help communicate and disseminate IMOS science outputs and outcomes.

We are an inclusive workplace committed to ‘working from the strength that diversity brings’ reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.
What You’ll Do

- Inform and implement science planning for IMOS, including liaison with Facility leaders and the broader research community, to promote use and integration of data streams through all available avenues.
- Play a leadership role in data integration to value-add to IMOS data streams.
- Work to maximise the relevance of IMOS by monitoring science performance, identifying and facilitating collaborations or partnerships, developing and/or leading funding applications and identifying gaps or opportunities to improve IMOS or increase its efficiency or efficacy.
- Serve as a liaison between the IMOS Office, AODN and Facilities to facilitate work plans and ensure data delivery as well as working with the AODN and Facilities to ensure IMOS data meet national and international standards and have appropriate quality assurance and quality control measures in place.
- Represent and promote IMOS at appropriate conferences and workshops, and liaise with researchers, universities, and other key stakeholders as required.
- Actively identify scientific advances or data products that enhance IMOS activities and/or increase their relevance and impact.
- Participate in and support scientific committees (e.g. IMOS Science and Technology Advisory Committee and Task Teams), and assist in the production of progress reports, business plans, posters, fact sheets and other documentation and publicity material or activities.

What We’re Looking For (success criteria)

- Completion of a postgraduate qualification in physical or biogeochemical oceanography and extensive relevant experience (at least 5 years postdoctoral); or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Experience in integration of diverse data streams and value-adding to research data.
- Demonstrated knowledge of scientific observing and application of data to address important and topical research questions, including translation of results to end-users.
- Demonstrated experience in high level scientific project coordination and management.
- Evidence of previous experience facilitating or leading multi-disciplinary science collaborations, including successful proposal writing.
- Ability to identify scientific opportunities for ocean observing to increase data use and impacts.
- Good organisational skills including the ability to use initiative, prioritise, solve routine problems, develop and modify procedures, gather relevant information and refer to relevant staff where appropriate.
- Well-developed oral and written communication skills and demonstrated experience in presenting science to technical and non-technical audiences, ability to build networks and work flexibly and proactively as a member of a team.

Other position requirements

- Strong national or international network with research scientists and stakeholders that use and benefit from ocean observing infrastructure and data streams.

University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania. Our Strategic Direction strongly reflects the University community’s voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.
We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

Check out more here:

https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs


The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.