

Principal 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 General Manager
Date	Sept 2023

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 Principal 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 and informed by a series of jurisdictional Nodes. IMOS has four performance indicators: 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.

The Principal Science Officer has responsibility for scientific planning, ensuring data are used as widely as possible and actively identifying and pursuing opportunities to increase science collaboration to assist IMOS in meeting its objectives. This individual coordinates and supports IMOS' scientific governance processes including IMOS Nodes, the IMOS Science and Technology Advisory Committee and other ad-hoc or specific purpose advisory or steering committees. The Principal Science Officer works directly with IMOS Facilities, Nodes and the scientific community to help ensure science plans are fulfilled and that observing approaches and the data generated meet international best practice 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 Principal Science Officer will work with the IMOS Executive Team and across the IMOS Office to monitor science quality and delivery, data use and uptake, and opportunities for data use in novel applications. The Principal Science Officer has supervisory responsibility for and is supported by the Science Officer, Impact and Engagement Officer and the Communications Manager.

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

Ensuring Scientific Relevance, Quality and Breath of Impact

- Contribute to IMOS strategies through liaison with Facilities and Nodes to understand need, use and uptake of IMOS data, and provide input into a 10-year observing system vision.
- Maintain strong relationships with Facility Leaders and the broader research community, to promote use and integration of data streams through all available avenues.
- Work with the AODN to identify and create opportunities which drive data integration to value-add or expand the application of IMOS funded 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.
- Represent and promote IMOS at appropriate conferences and workshops, and create a strong multi-disciplinary network of key research, government and industry stakeholders and foster ongoing stakeholder involvement in future IMOS initiatives.
- Provide regional and nationally aggregated analysis of emerging needs and trends in observational science, alongside regional and national policy to inform future planning and growth opportunities for the program.
- Contribute to the production of progress reports, business plans, posters, fact sheets and other documentation and publicity material or activities.

Support Best Practice Governance and Program Performance

- Participate in and support scientific committees and governance (e.g. IMOS Science and Technology Advisory Committee, steering committees and Task Teams) and manage the balance between voluntary governance effort against IMOS governance needs.
- Contribute to the longevity and sustainability of IMOS by monitoring science alignment and performance, identifying and managing key relationships with collaborators or partnerships and promoting mutual benefits delivered by involvement the IMOS partnership.
- Conduct whole-of-program research, reviews and analyses to meet IMOS strategic and governance priorities.

Contribute to Great Team Culture

- Manage and support direct reports, including providing high level supervision, team leadership, coaching and development to ensure task delivery and accountability and support a highly engaged and performing team.
- Actively contribute to the overall IMOS Office culture and support the IMOS Executive's approach to leadership, performance and recognition to ensure IMOS remains an attractive and enjoyable place to work.

Tasks are performed under the broad direction of the IMOS Director and day to day guidance of the General Manager. The position operates with a high overall degree of autonomy. The scale and complexity of IMOS will require the Principal Science Officer to demonstrate scientific leadership and exercise managerial decision making in delegated areas, with clear accountability for contribution to overall program performance.

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.
- Demonstrated experience in high level project coordination, monitoring and management.
- Evidence of previous experience leading multi-disciplinary teams.
- 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

- Demonstrated knowledge of scientific observing and application of data to address important and topical research questions, including translation of results to end-users.

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>

<https://www.utas.edu.au/careers/our-people-values-and-behaviours>

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.