

Phytoplankton Taxonomist

College/Division	COSE
School/Section	IMAS - Ecology and Biodiversity
Location	Hobart
Classification	HEO5
Reporting line	Reports to Associate Professor

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 Phytoplankton Taxonomist in the [Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies](#), part of [the College of and Science Engineering](#).

The Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS; <http://imos.org.au/>) 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. Since 2006, IMOS has been routinely operating a wide range of observing equipment throughout Australia's coastal and open oceans, making its data accessible to the marine and climate science community, other stakeholders and users, and international collaborators. IMOS currently has a portfolio of Facilities that undertake systematic and sustained observing of Australia's vast and valuable marine estate. IMOS observations are turned into data that can be discovered, accessed, downloaded, used and reused in perpetuity by our data Facility: The Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN).

A fixed term position is available for a Phytoplankton Taxonomist to work in the Plankton sub-Facility, processing silks from the Continuous Plankton Recorder survey in the Southern Ocean. The person will be responsible primarily for taxonomic analysis of phytoplankton samples. They will also have a role in field work preparation and delivery of data to the AODN. The person will participate in on-going data entry and analysis, and timely delivery of milestones to IMOS. Some time working at sea in the Southern Ocean might also be required.

The incumbent is expected to have sound microscopy skills and be willing to spend time undertaking training at the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) and work actively with other members of the Plankton sub-Facility. The position will be based at the AAD in Kingston, though the incumbent will be an IMAS employee.

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

- Undertake high level analysis of CPR silks to enumerate and identify phytoplankton collected on transects through the Southern Ocean.
- Enter data into standard databases used by the IMOS CPR program and meet the standards of the



Australian Ocean Data Network.

- Participate in training with other members of the IMOS CPR program and ensure standard reporting and methods are adhered to.
- Contribute to preparation of regular milestone reports to IMOS, IMAS and AAD.
- Contribute to outreach activities for IMOS and the Southern Ocean CPR program, including setting up displays and interacting with schools, the public and other stakeholders.
- Undertake other tasks and duties as assigned by the supervisor.

What We're Looking For (success criteria)

- Completion of a Bachelor of Science (Honours), with relevant experience.
- Demonstrated ability to undertake high-level microscopy for taxonomic identification of phytoplankton samples.
- Aptitude to spend long hours on a microscope.
- Ability to work independently and meet milestones and deadlines.
- Computer and data handling capabilities.
- Willingness to work at sea in the Southern Ocean for periods up to 2 months.
- Interest in undertaking outreach activities with schools and public.

Other position requirements

- Laboratory and workshop activities and handling hazardous substances
- Undertaking manual handling and lifting >10kg
- Visiting and working in the field in remote locations
- Willingness to undertake a medical assessment based on meeting the inherent position requirements

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.

More information:

<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.

