Postdoctoral Associate – Marine Biology/Ocean Carbonate Chemistry

Role and Responsibilities

The Downeast Institute (DEI) seeks a motivated and creative marine biologist with expertise in ocean and sediment carbonate chemistry to help assemble an ocean acidification laboratory, and conduct experiments in the laboratory and field to determine effects of ocean acidification (OA) on the biology and ecology of local, commercially-important shellfish. This research will be facilitated by state-of-the-art hatchery facilities at DEI where we have been rearing bivalves and crustaceans for the past 30 years. The successful candidate will work closely with the institute’s Director of Research and its staff to establish and operate the OA laboratory, and promote interactive research with outside investigators to utilize DEI facilities for OA research. The candidate will be responsible for recommending appropriate equipment and supplies for the OA laboratory and for the field to conduct manipulative experiments to examine how current and future carbonate chemistry of seawater and sediments affect life-history dynamics of local shellfish. The successful candidate will have broad, in-depth knowledge of shellfish biology/ecology as well as carbonate chemistry related to seawater and sediments. She/He will have experience writing successful grants, and assembling and working in an OA laboratory. The position (including salary, fringe, and funding for some laboratory equipment) is for a period of 24 months.

Requirements

The ideal candidate will have/be:

1) A Ph.D. in Marine Biology or Marine Chemistry, or a related field;
2) In-depth understanding of shellfish biology/ecology/physiology, and seawater carbonate chemistry;
3) Experience in assembling an OA laboratory;
4) Experience working with infaunal and epibenthic shellfish;
5) A desire to play a key role in developing new technologies;
6) An independent thinker and problem-solver who is an enthusiastic and collaborative professional, and with excellent written and oral communication skills;
7) A proven ability to work well in a team environment;
8) Experience writing and obtaining extramural funding for research grants; and,
9) Passionate about working in a rural setting in the newest marine laboratory on the east coast of the United States.
Company Description

The Downeast Institute is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that is located on a 16-acre coastal campus in far eastern Maine in the town of Beals. It operates the easternmost marine research laboratory and education center in the United States, as well as a production and research shellfish hatchery. The pristine, coldwater location and state-of-the-art venue provides exceptional capacity for scientists, marine educators, and their teams. As the University of Maine at Machias Marine Science Field Station and local experiential classroom, DEI enriches the education of local youth, university students and the visiting public. We culture commercially important shellfish seed, restoring and creating economic opportunities for harvesters, aquaculturists, and other entrepreneurs throughout coastal Maine and beyond. DEI’s mission is to improve the quality of life for the people of downeast and coastal Maine through marine research, marine science education, and innovations in wild and cultured fisheries. DEI has a staff of thirteen, and a 14-member volunteer board of directors. For more information, please visit https://downeastinstitute.org/about-us/. DEI offers a competitive benefits package.

Materials must be submitted electronically to bbeal@downeastinstitute.org with “Apply for Post-doc Position” in the subject line.

Required material includes: Cover Letter, References, Resume/CV, and Transcripts.

All required materials must be submitted by 30 April 2019.

Appropriate background screening will be conducted on the successful candidate.

A 1 June 2019 starting date is preferred.