



Faculty/Department: Mathematics, Informatics, Natural Sciences/Biology
Seminar/Institute: Institute for Hydrobiology and Fisheries Science

Universität Hamburg invites applications for a Research Associate for the project **“THRESHOLDS: Disentangling the effects of climate-driven processes on North Sea herring recruitment through physiological thresholds”** in accordance with Section 28 subsection 3 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG). The position commences on 16.08.2018 .

It is remunerated at the salary level TV-L 13 and calls for 50 % of standard work hours per week*.

The fixed-term nature of this contract is based upon Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act (Gesetz über befristete Arbeitsverträge in der Wissenschaft, WissZeitVG). The term is fixed for a period of 3 years.

The University aims to increase the number of women in research and teaching and explicitly encourages women to apply. Equally qualified female applicants will receive preference in accordance with the Hamburg act on gender equality (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HmbGleiG).

Responsibilities:

Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates can also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications.

Specific Duties:

The DFG-funded THRESHOLDS project (<http://gepris.dfg.de/gepris/projekt/386574018>) investigates the impact of climate-driven factors on the recruitment of a key ecosystem player in the North Sea, the Atlantic herring. THRESHOLDS uses a holistic approach (laboratory experiments, field sampling, models) to provide a step change in our mechanistic understanding of how climate variability impacts the structure and function of lower trophic levels, focusing on zooplankton and ichthyoplankton. Special emphasis is given to the under-studied "protozooplankton-ichthyoplankton link". In addition, this project builds on a very strong network of international collaborators (Netherlands, France, Norway), providing an exciting niche for a PhD project.

Specific duties for the selected candidate are, amongst others,:

- 1) run and coordinate laboratory experiments on larval herring physiology under different environmental scenarios. Organismal- (e.g. growth, metabolism, feeding and swimming behavior) and cellular-level (e.g. RNA/DNA, enzymes) measurements will be conducted
- 2) calibrate and use biochemical proxies for growth, condition and feeding in field-caught herring larvae
- 3) conduct field sampling to continue time series of North Sea zooplankton, and sample processing using image analysis (FlowCam, ZooScan)

* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.



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4) closely cooperate with modellers to further analyze the results obtained in the lab and in the field

Requirements:

A university degree in a relevant field. (a MSc in Zoology, Oceanography, Animal Physiology or a related discipline)

Previous experience on the cultivation of marine organisms and/or onboard of oceanographic cruises.

Basic knowledge of experimental design, data analysis and statistics is required. Advanced knowledge of statistics, and/or programming (e.g. R, Python, Matlab) is highly advantageous.

Good command of the English language is required. Communication abilities in German are desired.

Ability to work independently, take responsibility and work within a multi-cultural team.

Severely disabled applicants will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

For further information, please contact Dr. Marta Moyano or consult our website at <https://www.cen.uni-hamburg.de/about-cen/cen-members/moyano.html> .

Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s).

The application deadline is April 20th . Please send applications to:

marta.moyano@uni-hamburg.de (Subject: "THRESHOLDS PhD position") .