



ALFRED-WEGENER-INSTITUT
HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FÜR POLAR-
UND MEERESFORSCHUNG



The Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) is a member of the Helmholtz Association (HGF) and funded by federal and state government. AWI focuses on polar and marine research in a variety of disciplines such as biology, oceanography, geology, geochemistry and geophysics thus allowing multidisciplinary approaches to scientific goals.

PhD Researcher (m/f/d) in crustacean ecophysiology

Background

The PhD project will take place within the context of a larger international collaborative project (between Germany and Chile) called MERGE: "Responses of marine invertebrates to climate driven environmental variation across a wide latitudinal range. A multidisciplinary approach with implications for the population dynamics and sustainability of fishery resources". The aims of MERGE are to quantify and explain the cause of variation in the reactions of the squat lobster *Pleuroncodes monodon* to climate-driven changes in environmental variables over a broad latitude gradient. *P. monodon*, an ecologically and economically important coastal species, inhabits the Humboldt "Large Marine Ecosystem" of the coast of Chile (South Pacific). The objective of the PhD project is the quantification of the effect of increased temperature, food limitation and hypoxia on the growth and physiological tolerance of larvae and juveniles stages as well as the identification of spatial patterns in the ability of organisms to tolerate climate-driven change. The results of the PhD project will contribute towards the characterization of the spatial variation of the physiological sensitivities of the model species, thus helping to identify local populations that are more tolerant to climate change, which should then be protected to achieve sustainability.

Tasks

You will

- design and carry out experiments to investigate the effects of hypoxia, increased temperature and food limitation on growth and physiology of early stages of the squat lobster.
- carry out analysis of data through generalized mixed modelling statistical techniques.
- contribute to the development of a theory to explain effects of multiple stressors on marine organisms, together with other members of MERGE.

Requirements

- Master degree (or equivalent) in Biological Sciences
- strong background in Physiology or Aquatic Ecology or Marine Biology
- strong communication skills in English language written and oral
- strong cooperation and team player skills

Desirable skills and experience

- working experience in plankton ecophysiology including plankton culturing
- proven analytical skills

Further Information

For further information please contact **Dr. Gabriela Torres** (gabriela.torres@awi.de; +49(0)4725 819 3141).

The position is limited to 3 years. The salary will be paid in accordance with the German Tarifvertrag des öffentlichen Dienstes (TVöD Bund), up to salary level **13 (66%)**. The place of employment will be **Helgoland**.

This characterizes us

- our scientific success - excellent research.
- collaboration and cooperation - intra-institute, national and international, interdisciplinary.
- opportunities to develop – on the job, aiming at other positions and beyond AWI.
- a culture of reconciling work and family – audited, and even more than that.
- our outstanding research infrastructure – ships, stations, aircraft, laboratories and more.
- an international environment – everyday contacts with people from all over the world.
- having an influence – fundamental research with social and political relevance
- flat hierarchies – freedom and responsibility.
- exciting topics – also in technology, administration and infrastructure.

Equal opportunities are an integral part of our personnel policy and we encourage women to apply.

As Ph.D. student at AWI you will be member of the Helmholtz Graduate School for Polar and Marine Research 'POLMAR' (<http://polmar.awi.de>) or another graduate school.

Disabled applicants will be given preference when equal qualifications are present. The AWI fosters the compatibility of work and family through various means. Because of our engagement in the area of work-life compatibility we have been awarded the certificate "Career and Family".

We look forward to your application!

Please forward your application by **December 19th, 2019** exclusively [online](#).

Reference number 19/139/D/Bio-b