BioVision

Biogeographic Variation in Interaction Strength and Invasions at the Ocean's Nearshore

Postdoctoral Fellowship Available

A postdoctoral fellowship is available with the BioVision Project (Biogeographic Variation in Interaction Strength and Invasions at the Ocean's Nearshore), an NSF-funded collaborative project led by Dr. Amy Freestone (Temple University, Philadelphia, PA), Dr. Greg Ruiz (Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, MD) and Dr. Mark Torchin (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama City, Panama). This research will examine how species interactions influence marine communities across a latitudinal gradient, from the tropics to the arctic, and the implications of these interactions for biological invasions. We will be conducting extensive experiments testing the relative influence of predation and competition on species diversity, community assembly and invasion success, using subtidal sessile marine invertebrate communities in coastal bays of the West Coast of North and Central America, specifically Alaska, Northern California, Mexico and Panama. We will use additional experiments to quantify spatial and temporal variation in the predator community, sessile invertebrate recruitment, and the abiotic environment to test for effects on interaction outcomes.

The fellow will 1) lead a field team composed of graduate and undergraduate students who will collect data from our large-scale experiments, under the supervision of the PIs and project partners, and 2) conduct their own research on related topics in collaboration with the PIs. The position is for one year with opportunities for extension up to three years. To facilitate the execution of our experiments and to provide opportunities for further field research, the postdoctoral fellow will be based at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama for most of year one, and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center's Marine Invasions Lab at the Romberg Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies on San Francisco Bay in California for the subsequent year, with travel to other field locations and Temple University. The position will begin in early summer 2015.

We seek an applicant that brings complementary skills and interests to our research team. Successful applicants will have completed a PhD in ecology, marine science, or related field. Preference will be given to applicants with a strong background in marine invertebrate zoology and identification, marine ecology, community ecology, invasion ecology, and/or quantitative methods. The successful applicant will need to be comfortable living and working abroad, including in Spanish-speaking countries. The appointment will include salary that will be commensurate with experience, $42,000- 47,000, plus benefits.

Please send a cover letter that describes qualifications and career goals, research statement, CV, graduate transcript (unofficial is acceptable), and contact information for three references. Completed applications should be submitted to Dr. Amy Freestone (amy.freestone@temple.edu). Review of applications will begin on December 1. Questions on the position can be directed to Dr. Amy Freestone.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Smithsonian SERIOUSLY AMAZING®