**Researcher in Polar Physical Oceanography**

**Job Description**

**1. Job Details**

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| Job Title:  | Researcher in Polar Physical Oceanography  | Department: | Science |
| Line Manager: | Professor & Principal Investigator in Physical Oceanography | Grade: | 6  |
| Full Time/Part Time: | Full Time – 37 hrs per week | Duration of Appointment: | Open-ended |

**2. Job Purpose**

To undertake high quality research in line with SAMS research strategy, and to lecture to undergraduate students on SAMS Marine Science BSc programmes.

During the first three years, the post-holder will contribute to three funded Arctic oceanography programmes: UKRI-NERC Highlight Topic “Kanglac” and two Research Council of Norway funded projects, “PolarFront” and “opKrop”.

You will spend ~2/3 of your initial three years working on Kanglac. By integrating observations across four disciplines, and using state-of-the art technologies, Kanglac aims to quantify rates of ice loss from Greenland’s marine-terminating outlet glaciers and their oceanic drivers on decadal to centennial timescales, as well as assess their impacts on ocean circulation and marine productivity. You will co-lead the physical oceanographic aspects of this programme (with Prof M. Inall, SAMS and Dr P. Abrahamsen, BAS), which will involve the use of autonomous underwater vehicles and turbulence measurements from the research vessel RSS Sir David Attenborough in SE Greenland in summer 2024.

In opKrop, you will work on a long-term time series of oceanographic data from moored instruments (CTD/ADCP) to look at water mass changes in Svalbard fjords (so-called Atlantification of the Arctic). This will entail working closely with project colleagues in Tromsø researching changing fjordic ecosystems. In a similar vein, PolarFront will evaluate the impact of the physical-chemical characteristics of the Polar Front on pelagic productivity and food-web dynamics. Taken together, these two projects continue a long-standing collaboration between oceanographers at SAMS and in Norway, in which you will play an integral role.

The postholder will contribute to SAMS/UHI Marine Science undergraduate programme through leadership and delivery of the first-year module “Principles of Physics”.

**3. Main Responsibilities**

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| *Responsibility Areas* | *Approx. %**of time* |
| Assist with the management and implementation of research projects, including cruise/experiment planning, leading and publishing high quality peer-reviewed research to meet project research objectives, presenting at national and international meetings and forming and maintaining national and international relationships and collaborations for scientific research. | 70 |
| Develop portfolio of international Arctic contacts, co-Lead Arctic grouping at SAMS, develop and lead Arctic-related research grant applications with view to transition to SAMS Lecturer Grade 7 after 3 years in post. | 15 |
| Lead Year 1 Physics module for the BSc stream, supervise literature review and dissertation students.  | 15 |
| Contribute to identification and completion of SAMS enterprise and commercial opportunities | Ongoing |
| Be pro-active in the management of SAMS Health & Safety procedures | Ongoing |

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**4. Planning and Organising**

* Plan research experiments/observations and organisation of cruises.
* Plan research and dissemination of findings.
* Mentor junior colleagues and postgraduate students
* Plan and structure teaching, including module leadership and lectures.

**5. Problem-Solving**

* Solve research questions using analytic and computational skills, and collaborations, both within and outside SAMS.
* Work with novel and complex datasets
* Work with autonomous/robotic platforms and new sensors
* Support cruise planning in terms of equipment/shipping.

**6. Decision-Making**

* Prioritise activities as appropriate from project requirements and those of colleagues and line manager.
* Appraise possible new areas of research aligning to SAMS’s research priorities.
* Decide on the appropriate methods to collect data to answer research questions.

**7. Key Contacts/Relationships**

* Maintain and develop relationships with scientists and support staff in SAMS and within the UK and international oceanographic communities, developing opportunities for collaborative work.
* Attendance at conferences and community meetings, to present current work and to represent the institute and the work of colleagues to build networks and opportunities for collaborative work.
* Engagement with the Arctic research and marine robotics communities, keeping at the forefront of current research and methods.

**8. Knowledge, Skills and Experience needed for the Job**

* Undergraduate degree in a STEM subject
* PhD in physical oceanography
* Experience in using autonomous platforms, the data they generate and computing languages to analyse these data.
* Understanding of high latitude ocean environment, ice-covered waters and associated physical/biogeochemical processes.
* Ability to work independently or within a team to solve complex research questions.
* High quality written and oral communication skills.
* Ability to work effectively at sea.

**9. Dimensions – Scope of role**

* Work with colleagues within SAMS and externally to deliver current research and develop your own research trajectory, contribute to future research proposals, working closely with SAMS Principal Investigators and generate your own income generation, where possible.
* Produce at least three 3\*/4\* publications over each defined research assessment (RAE, REF) period. The next exercise is in 2028
* Teach, supervise and assess students working in physical oceanography and Arctic studies. Willingness to work towards FHEA accreditation in first 3 years.
* Proactively engage with SAMS Enterprise to establish and deliver commercial projects and identify new commercially attractive products and services within your science area. Write up reports, where required.

**10. Any other relevant information**

* Be engaged with / or confident with social media and / or PR.

The post holder may be required to perform duties other than those given in the job description for the post. The particular duties and responsibilities attached to posts may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibilities entailed**.** If the normal duties of the post include going to sea (apart from small boats e.g. RHIB's) the post holder must be able to obtain the ENG1 medical certification and complete the STCW 95 Personal Survival Techniques training.

[WHAT SAMS CAN OFFER YOU (please right click and select ‘open in new tab’)](https://vimeo.com/411370772)

Our Values and culture

We strive to be a world-class marine science enterprise that underpins regional, national, and international policy, and societal action to secure healthy and sustainable oceans.

As a workforce, we have a strong family and team culture, helping each other to achieve our goals.

Remuneration

We offer a competitive salary and pension as well as employee benefits package. We also have a number of supportive policies to assist absence, family, and other leave types.

Career Goals

SAMS provides a supportive learning and career growth environment for those looking for that next step in their career or upskill in the workplace. This may be through opportunities to develop techniques, learn more about the science objectives for the group, gain some tutorial opportunities, as well as attend meetings and CPD events.

We’ll provide you with a good start as you join SAMS

SAMS provides an excellent induction which is a great introduction to the organisation, the facilities, your department and team, and provides that support that you need over the early months joining a new organisation. We will also provide you with office space, computing equipment and ensure this is ready for you on your first day of work.

Employee Benefits

In addition to a general remuneration package which includes a generous salary, pension, and sickness absence policy, we offer a number of employee benefits to our staff, some of which are listed below:

* Flexible & Hybrid working arrangements (up to 2 days working from home)
* Purchase of additional annual leave – up to 20 days per annum
* Access to shopping discounts as well as local shop and leisure discounted memberships
* Cycle to work scheme
* Purchase of technology
* Payroll Giving
* Salary Sacrifice – pensions
* Access to wellbeing portals which provide support for mental health, nutrition and fitness and GP referral scheme
* Occupational health support
* Welfare support on site
* Access to CBT sessions
* Sabbatical scheme
* A number of training and development courses to assist you with your career development – leadership, coaching and mentoring.

SAMS’ commitment to gender equality has been recognised, as our institute was presented with an Athena SWAN (Scientific Women’s Academic Network) Bronze Award. SAMS is currently working towards a silver award.

SAMS have received a Youth Friendly Employer Badge 2023 – Bronze Award.

SAMS have received a Bronze Award through the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme. We recognise the contribution that Service personnel, reservists, veterans, the cadet movement, and military families make to our organisation, our community and to the country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant through Education, training, and employment of veterans and Service spouses.

As an Academic Partner of the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI), SAMS is designated as an educational establishment and subject to the provisions of the Protection of Children (Scotland) Act. Certain roles may be subject to a satisfactory check by Disclosure (Scotland) as a condition of their appointment.

Applications must include CV and Cover Letter and should be sent electronically to recruitment@sams.ac.uk quoting Job Ref. ‘D29/23.MI’in the subject line.

The closing date for applications is 31st October 2023.

Interviews will likely be held during the week of 20th November 2023.

*Please note, we prefer to contact referees prior to interview.*

Guidance for Applicants

Candidates must have the rights to work in the UK already in place.

Your application – what are we looking for?

We are looking for a full CV – please remember to document all your relevant work experience, listed with the most recent first. You should also include your educational achievements with you most recent qualification first.  You should include skills and competencies gained from previous employment or education. This should be specific to the job description.  Also, please include details of two referees, one referee at least from your current role, who we may contact if invited for interview.

We enjoy reading cover letters and these are an important part of the application. In the letter, connect your past accomplishments with the requirements listed in the job description. Focus on your most relevant experience, qualifications, and skills. Where possible, quantify your accomplishments with facts and data.

***Useful links***

* [How to write a flawless cover letter](https://career-advice.jobs.ac.uk/cv-and-cover-letter-advice/how-to-write-a-flawless-cover-letter-in-2020/) (please right click and select open in new tab)
* [How to write a CV](https://www.reed.co.uk/career-advice/how-to-write-a-cv/) (please right click and select open in new tab)

