

PhD Scholarship in Bioanalytical tools for integrated assessment of contaminants of emerging concern (18-17093)

Position No.

18-17093

At the Faculty of Engineering and Science, Department of Chemistry and Bioscience, a PhD scholarship is available within the Section of Biology and Environmental Science. The scholarship is in the frame of the Marie Skłodowska Curie ETN – European Training Network "AQUALity" and is open for appointment from 1 March 2018 or soon thereafter.

Job description

European Training Network "AQUALity"

The successful applicant will be part of the Marie Skłodowska Curie European Training Network "AQUALity", which is an interdisciplinary cross-sectoral approach to effectively address the removal of contaminants of emerging concern from water. The AQUALity network consists of 11 Academic Institutions, which collaborate with 9 companies. This European Training Network aims to generate and promote 15 highly skilled scientists with the potential to face the present and future challenges concerning the protection of water resources from contaminants of emerging concern. Hence, the successful applicant and the other PhD students of the network will be enrolled in a structured training-through-research programme, consisting of an original individual research project, which includes secondments at some of the partners companies, and training on technical and transferable skills.

PhD Scholarship

The Department of Chemistry and Bioscience consists of five sections of which three are situated in Aalborg with research and teaching in Biotechnology, Chemistry, Biology and Environmental Science. The PhD position is located within the Section of Biology and Environmental Science with working place in Aalborg, Denmark. The position has a duration of three years and is funded by the European Commission grant no. 765860-AQUALity.

The PhD scholarship will focus on development and evaluation of bioanalytical tools for determining bioavailability and adverse effects of contaminants of emerging concern (micropollutants). The project will include bioassays with different biological endpoints to monitor contaminants and contaminant mixtures. Target contaminants will include selected micropollutants (e.g., pesticides, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, endocrine disruptors). In vivo and in vitro microbial and invertebrate bioassays will be combined with luminescence and fluorescence measurements for assessment of acute and chronic effects. Bioanalytical tools will be combined with chemical analytical techniques, and radiolabelled chemicals (¹⁴C) can be included to determine fate of micropollutants. The overall goal is to develop a toolbox for assessing ecological impacts of complex mixtures, and for evaluating effects of advanced water treatment technologies developed by other project partners for removal of toxic and endocrine disrupting chemicals.

As the PhD scholarship is in the frame of the European Training Network "AQUALity", the PhD fellow will be requested to visit international research groups and high-tech companies for a total secondment period of 10 months.

In addition to the individual scientific project, the PhD fellow will benefit from further continuing education, which includes PhD courses, transferable skills courses, as well as active participation

in workshops and conferences and secondments to partner labs.

Qualification requirements

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD candidate with strong interest in water, toxicology and micropollutants. The successful candidate must demonstrate a high level of accomplishment and excellence in her/his previous academic experience.

The PhD candidate is required to have a Master's degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Environmental Science or closely related field, plus relevant experience and expertise. Candidates must have a high proficiency level in oral and written English and possess good academic writing and presentation skills.

You may obtain further information from Associate Professor Peter Roslev concerning the scientific aspects of the scholarship (pr@bio.aau.dk).

PhD scholarships are allocated to individuals who hold a Master's Degree. PhD scholarships are normally for a period of 3 years. It is a prerequisite for allocation of the stipend that the candidate will be enrolled as a PhD fellow at the Doctoral School of Engineering and Science in accordance with the regulations of Ministerial Order No. 1039 of August 27, 2013 on the PhD Programme at the Universities and Certain Higher Artistic Educational Institutions. According to the Ministerial Order, the progress of the PhD fellow shall be assessed every six months. It is a prerequisite for continuation of salary payment that the previous progress is approved at the time of the evaluation.

Eligibility criteria

The applicants need to fully comply with the following eligibility criteria:

1. The candidate should be in the first four years (full-time equivalent) of his/her research careers, at the time of recruitment by Aalborg University. This is measured from the date when the candidate obtained the degree which formally entitles he/she to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the research training is provided, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate was envisaged. Please note that applicants cannot already hold a PhD at the time of recruitment.

2. Conditions of international mobility of researchers: the PhD student is required to undertake transnational mobility (i.e. move to Denmark) when taking up the appointment. The PhD student must not have resided or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organisation (Denmark) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment. Short stays, such as holidays, are not taken into account.

Admissibility requirements:

The application must be in English.

The application is only to be submitted online by using the "Apply online" button below.

The application file consists of the following documents:

- A letter of motivation.
- A detailed curriculum vitae.
- Documentation of education, such as scanned copy of the Master's diploma.
- List of publications.

Applicants must ensure that all documents are uploaded online before the submission deadline, as additional material cannot be considered.

The qualifications of the applicants will be assessed by an assessment committee. On the basis of the recommendation of the assessment committee, the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Science will make a decision for allocating the stipend.

For further information about the scholarship, salary as well as practical issues concerning the application procedure, please contact Ms. Ruth Klitte, The Faculty of Engineering and Science, email: rk@adm.aau.dk, phone: +45 9940 7993. For more information of the Doctoral School of Engineering and Science: www.phd.engineering.aau.dk

Please note that the deadline for applications is 2 January 2018.

The application is only to be submitted online by using the "Apply online" button below.

Workplace

Aalborg

Agreement

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions offer attractive salary and working conditions. The successful candidate will receive a salary in accordance with the national legislation of the recruiting institution and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions regulations for early stage researchers (PhD fellows). Exact salary will be confirmed upon appointment.

Individual salary of the PhD fellow will be established in accordance with the general conditions of the H2020-MSCA-ITN-2017 programme and the Grant Agreement no. 765860-AQUALity with the European Commission, Research Executive Agency.

Appointment and salary as a PhD fellow are according to the Ministry of Finance Circular of March 26, 2012 on the Collective Agreement for Academics in Denmark, Appendix 5, regarding PhD fellows, and with the Ministry of Finance current circular on the employment structure at Danish Universities.

Deadline

02/01/2018

Apply online

Aalborg University (AAU) conducts teaching and research to the highest level in the fields of humanities, engineering, and natural, health, and social sciences.

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