

**Postdoctoral Researcher – Seaweed Biodiscovery**  
**Botany and Plant Science**  
**NUI Galway**  
**Ref. No. NUIG-062-17**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time, fixed-term position as a Postdoctoral Researcher in Botany and Plant Science at the National University of Ireland, Galway. This position is funded by the Marine Institute and is available for **two years**, subject to a one year probationary period, from May 2017.

The main aim of this project is to undertake algal research at National University of Ireland Galway in collaboration with the National Marine Biodiscovery Laboratory in Ireland (NMBLI) based at the Irish Marine Institute.

**Job Description:**

The successful candidate will work in close collaboration with the local Principal Investigator (Dr Dagmar Stengel at NUI Galway) as part of multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary team (led by Prof Thomas, NUI Galway; the University of Limerick, University College Cork and the Marine Institute) to create and support a natural repository of marine biological samples in Ireland. The postdoc will undertake the collection and identification and maintenance of algal samples, and analyse primary metabolite to underpin further detailed biodiscovery research. The postdoc will develop protocols for appropriate sourcing, sampling, processing and storage and required inputs into a database of relevant samples characteristics for marine biotechnological applications. The postdoc will liaise with project partners, as well as other Irish and international collaborators as required.

**Main duties and responsibilities:**

The main tasks will be;

- Undertake and be responsible for sourcing (collection) and identification of Irish marine algae
- Select and contribute marine algal samples the project team regarding the establishment of a national repository for algal samples and extracts for marine biodiscovery research
- Collaborate with the project team regarding sample storage and processing
- Undertake analyses of primary metabolites and compounds
- Liaise with and distribute samples and extracts to project partners
- Support the set-up of protocols and database for a national marine biodiscovery network
- Promote the work of the project through conference and workshop presentations, and in peer-reviewed publications
- Assist the project management team and interact with project partners
- Ensure that the project is carried out with reference to the appropriate health and safety guidelines and any other relevant NUI Galway policies (e.g., purchasing and procurement)
- Maintain confidentiality of Intellectual Property (IP) associated with the project
- Assist with supervision and training of students/researchers on related projects as appropriate

**Essential Qualifications:**

- PhD in seaweed biology or ecology, including taxonomy/diversity
- Experience in seaweed collection from diverse marine habitats; identification and maintenance of algal samples
- Experience in seaweed ecophysiology techniques and lab-scale cultivation
- Demonstrable experience in both independent and collaborative research
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (English language)
- Evidence of scientific publication and dissemination of results at conferences

- Experience in analytical techniques such as HPLC
- Experience in scuba diving or snorkelling
- Driving licence valid in Ireland

**Desirable skills and experience:**

- Experience in broader marine algal taxonomy/diversity including epibiota
- Experience in seaweed stress exposure/assessment of responses
- Experience in collaborating within a multi-institutional team
- Experience in project management
- Appropriate supervisory and teaching experience may be an advantage
- Appreciation of IP procedures relevant to university research

**Salary:** €37,750- €41,181 per annum.  
thereafter)

**Start date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017 (or as soon as possible

**Continuing Professional Development/Training:**

Researchers at NUI Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans.

Further information on research and working at NUI Galway is available on [Research at NUI Galway](#)

For information on moving to Ireland please see [www.euraxess.ie](http://www.euraxess.ie)

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Dr Dagmar Stengel. For more information on Botany and Plant Science, see

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/science/school-of-natural-sciences/disciplines/botany-plant-science/>

And

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/science/school-of-natural-sciences/disciplines/botany-plant-science/research/algalbiosciences/>

**To Apply:**

Applications to include a covering letter, CV, and the contact details of three referees should be sent, via e-mail (PDF only, preferably a single file) to Dr Dagmar Stengel: [e-mail dagmar.stengel@nuigalway.ie](mailto:dagmar.stengel@nuigalway.ie)

Please put reference number **NUIG 062-17** in subject line of e-mail application.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 pm 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

**Interviews are planned to be held on week starting 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017.**

All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.

National University of Ireland, Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

