

Postdoctoral positions

in the University of Pretoria

Centre for Microbial Ecology and Genomics (CMEG)

The following postdoctoral positions, starting January 2021, are available. Skills in microbiology, phylogenetics, metagenomics and relevant bioinformatics methods are particularly desirable.

Metagenomics of Arctic Tundra Soils [2 years]

In collaboration with Dr Ian Hogg (Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS), Cambridge Bay), we aim to investigate the functional microbiomics of tundra soils over annual cycles. The postdoc will be required to work in Dr Hogg's laboratory in CHARS for some months in mid-late 2021.

Namib Desert Microbial Ecology [2 years]

The postdoc will participate in our long-term Namib Desert microbiomics program, based on an annual field expedition to the Gobabeb Research Station. Our next major planned experiment will investigate very short-term functional-microbiome responses to water addition. This project will use a combination of metagenomics, MAG assemblies and metatranscriptomics.

TWO POSTS in Environmental Metagenomics [3 years]

As part of a collaborative network with Professor Yves van de Peer (UP and University of Ghent), Associate Professor Thulani Makhwanyane (UP) and Dr Esh Mizrahi (UP), these postdocs will work on a number of metagenomic projects focussing on marine systems, plant genetics, Antarctic soils, African soils and rhizospheric microbiomes. A strong background in bioinformatics is particularly desirable.

Applications should include a covering letter, a full CV and an indication of availability. Applications and enquiries should be directed to **Professor Don Cowan, Centre for Microbial Ecology and Genomics, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa** (don.cowan@up.ac.za).

For more information of CMEG, see www.up.ac.za/CMEG