

Fully-funded PhD position MarCoast Ecosystems Integration Lab, Technion

The Marcoast Ecosystems Integration Lab at the Technion, headed by Professor Michelle Portman, has a fully-funded PhD position in a project that seeks to improve marine spatial planning so that the goals and objectives of environmentally sensitive ecosystem-based management have a better chance of being realized.



The Project

The PhD position is part of a project funded by the Israel Science Foundation. The purpose of the project is to investigate how ecosystem-based management is operationalized in marine spatial plans around the world. The project will be led by Michelle Portman, head of the MarCoast Lab, from the Technion's Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning. The student will be enrolled in the planning track. S/He will be responsible for applying empirical social-science research methods to determine how principles of planning and ecosystembased management are synthesized and operationalized in local, regional, national and trans-boundary marine spatial plans from different areas.

The MarCoast Lab is located within the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology Haifa, Israel. Candidates are expected to move to Israel upon acceptance to the PhD program and to devote full-time to research, PhD studies and to be a full and active member of the lab.

What is offered

The selected student will have a fully funded PhD position for a conditional period of 42 months, consisting of 12-months proposal stage and, if successful, another 28 months to conduct the research and deliver the PhD thesis. During this period, the candidate is entitled to a monthly stipend of NIS 5,800, with the possibility to receive an excellence stipend for proven research performance. Tuition as well is covered. In addition, the PhD student will have a modest travel budget for the purposes of collecting data and presenting research outputs at international venues. There is the possibility of housing on the Technion's campus, which is home to a diverse student population.

Selection criteria Candidates must fulfill all or most of the following criteria:

- Hold a Master's degree (with thesis).
- One of the student's past degrees must be in marine biology/marine conservation, natural resources studies, geography (physical), marine or coastal ecology, marine/coastal geology or adjacent field with a proven track record using socialscience research methods and/or quantitative statistical methods.
- A passion for marine conservation and protection
- Experience using GIS and/or R/STATA/SPSS
- Some initial experience with academic presentations
- Experience writing academic papers and/or professional reports
- Ability to meet the Technion acceptance criteria for PhD studies.
- Full proficiency in English or be a native speaker plus excellent English writing skills.

How to apply

Please send a motivation letter, a CV and the names and contact details of two references who can reflect on your skills, expertise and past performance. Please send these materials as an attachment (in one single PDF file) with "PhD Marine Planning" as the subject of an email and send to michellep@ar.technion.ac.il

The position will be open until filled

