**Research Assistant – Marine Biodiversity**

**School of Biological and Chemical Sciences**

**Ref. No. University of Galway 089-24**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time fixed term position as a Research Assistant in culture of marine organisms at the University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by Interreg project – BEAP-MAR (Atlantic Area EAPA\_0032/2022) and is available from 1 May 2024 to contract end date of April 2026

BEAP-MAR will tackle key challenges of the Blue Bioeconomy sector in the Atlantic Area - the limited knowledge of marine organisms, namely those non-traditionally commercially exploited, e.g., new algal strains, marine fungi and sponges, valorising them to develop new, innovative bioactive compounds and products for various industries. The research on these untapped organisms will lead to new methodologies for their industrial implementation. This will be done through Product Tests, envisaged as in-company knowledge transfer processes to provide new cost-effective and sustainable products of high-added value from new compounds. The Blue Bioeconomy is still in its infancy, so exchanging knowledge and best practices at a transnational level is needed. BEAP-MAR will establish cooperation schemes among partners and Quadruple Helix actors to share the lessons learnt in the project, increase knowledge of new marine organisms and their potential and reinforce the AA competitiveness

**Job Description:**

The successful candidate will work alongside researchers and students conducting various aspects of marine research. The candidate will mostly be involved with field collections, curation of the national marine biorepository and will have the opportunity to contribute to cutting-edge research in marine biology

**Duties:**

* Assist with marine fieldwork and sample collections focusing on seaweeds and sponges (including underwater diving).
* Sample processing, data entry, and data management (https://biomarep.org/).
* Media management (social media platforms).
* Contribute to the preparation of reports and other admin related tasks.
* Participate in team meetings, discussions, and collaborative research efforts
* Interacting with partners of the project the ensure the good and timely delivery of the results of the project;
* Effectively interacting with other members of the Marine Biodiscovery lab;
* Any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post

**Qualifications/Skills required:**

**Essential Requirements:**

* BSc in Marine Science or related field.
* Driver’s licence.
* Diving certificate.
* Experience in field work in coastal areas and if possible cold/temperate waters.

**Desirable Requirements:**

* MSc in Marine Science or a related area
* Experience in field identification of marine invertebartes/seaweeds
* Proficient in the use of softwares related to data collection
* Experience in DNA barcoding

**Salary**: Research Assistant salary scale €30,025 - €39,908 per annum, (subject to the project’s funding limitations), and pro rata for shorter and/or part-time contracts.

The default position for all new public sector appointments is the 1st point of the salary scale. This may be reviewed, and consideration afforded to appointment at a higher point on the payscale (subject to the project’s funding limitations), where evidence of prior years’ equivalent experience is accepted in determining placement on the scale above point 1, subject to the maximum of the scale.

[Research Salary Scales - University of Galway).](https://www.universityofgalway.ie/human-resources/recruitment-and-selection/recruitment-and-selection/researchsalaryscales/)

**Start date**: Position is available from 01 May 2024

**Continuing Professional Development/Training**:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia.  Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](http://www.nuigalway.ie/rdc) for further information.

Further information on research and working at University of Galway is available on [Research at University of Galway](http://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/)

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

Further information about the School of Biological and Chemical Sciences is available at <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/science-engineering/schoolofbiologicalandchemicalsciences/> and the marine biodiscovery laboratory at <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/our-research/people/biological-chemical-sciences/olivierthomas/>

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Professor Olivier Thomas

**To Apply:**

Applications to include a covering letter, CV, and the contact details of three referees should be sent, via e-mail (in word or PDF only) to **Prof. Olivier Thomas**: olivier.thomas@universityofgalway.ie

Please put reference number **University of Galway 089-24** in subject line of e-mail application.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 pm (Irish Time) 11 April 2024**

**Interviews are planned to be held on 19 April 2024**

We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.

University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

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

