



*Utrecht University's Faculty of Geosciences offers education and research concerning the geosphere, biosphere, atmosphere and anthroposphere. With a population of 2,200 students (BSc and MSc) and 575 staff, the faculty is a strong and challenging organisation. The faculty is organised in four departments: Earth Sciences, Physical Geography, Innovation & Environmental Sciences, and Human Geography & Urban & Regional Planning.*

The Department of Earth Sciences conducts teaching and research across the full range of the solid Earth and environmental Earth sciences, with activities in almost all areas of geology, geochemistry, geophysics, biogeology and hydrogeology. The Department hosts an international group of about 100 PhD's and postdoctoral researchers. It hosts a range of excellent laboratory facilities. The Department of Earth Sciences is currently looking for a:

### **Ph.D. researcher in the field of biogeochemistry/paleoclimatology**

**Project title: "The nutrient-climate connection in a greenhouse world: reading ancient sediment records".**

Oceanic anoxic events in Earth's past provide an indication of potential changes in the ocean upon continued anthropogenic release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. In this project, we will study the role of changes in marine phosphorus cycling for ocean biogeochemistry during past greenhouse periods. Sediment analyses will be combined with biogeochemical modeling with the goal of elucidating the link between ocean de-oxygenation, phosphorus cycling and climate change. Our ultimate goal is to improve predictions of the consequences of anthropogenically-enhanced inputs of nutrients to the oceans combined with global warming.

*The position is financed through the European Research Council (ERC) and is part of a Starting Grant awarded to Caroline Slomp on "Phosphorus dynamics in low-oxygen marine systems: quantifying the nutrient-climate connection in Earth's past, present and future".*

#### **Qualifications:**

We are looking for a highly motivated individual with an MSc or equivalent degree in Geosciences, Oceanography, Paleoclimatology, Environmental Sciences or a related field. Experience, or a strong interest in biogeochemistry and modeling is desirable. He/she should communicate easily in English, both verbally and in writing. Candidates should be able to work in a team, but independently.

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**Please, apply before November 28, 2011. The position will be open until filled, but we plan a first evaluation of applications on December 1, 2011. The preferred starting date is February 1, 2012 or a.s.a.p. thereafter. Please, mention where you originally saw our advertisement.**

**Terms of employment:**

The successful candidate will be offered a full-time PhD position, at first for one year. Contingent on a (yearly) satisfactory performance this may be extended to a total period of four years, with the specific intent that it results in a doctorate within this period. The first evaluation will take place approximately after 6 months of employment, the second after 9 months. After the 9 months evaluation the decision will be made whether an extension of the contract to a total period of 4 years will be offered to the employee.

Employment conditions are based on the Collective Labour Agreement of the Dutch Universities. The salary starts at € 2,042.- in the first year and increases to € 2,612.- gross per month in the fourth year. The salary supplemented by a holiday allowance of 8% per year and an end-of-year bonus of 8,3% per year (salary rates per 1-10-2011). We also offer a pension scheme, a health insurance allowance and flexible employment conditions

**Further details:**

For informal enquiries, contact dr. Caroline Slomp, e-mail: [c.p.slomp@uu.nl](mailto:c.p.slomp@uu.nl).

You may also wish to visit the Faculty website at: <http://www.geo.uu.nl/ivau>.

**How to apply:**

Visit <http://www.geo.uu.nl/vacancies>, find the equivalent of this advertisement and fill in the application form. Please, attach your motivation for the position, a statement of your research interests, a curriculum vitae, and the names and contact addresses of two referees (with e-mail contact addresses).

Application deadline is November 28, 2011.

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