

Job Description

Research Fellow in Conservation Science

Salary:	Grade 7
Contract:	Full time, fixed term
School/Department:	School of Natural Sciences
Location:	Canterbury Campus
Responsible to:	Professor Bob Smith

Job purpose

The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), in the School of Natural Sciences, seeks to appoint an ambitious and highly motivated marine-focused Research Fellow in Conservation Science to join an exciting research programme examining area-based conservation. The Research Fellow role is funded through the E3 'Sharing Space for Nature' initiative. The Fellow will contribute predominately to the England-focused E3 research cluster to achieve the overall programme goals, joining our new Lecturer in Marine Conservation, and a set of marine PhD students who will be funded through our Leverhulme Doctoral Scholars initiative.

In this role you will develop your own cutting-edge research agenda within the E3 remit, supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students and co-organise research/outreach events. You will have a strong research profile in marine conservation – in natural science, social sciences, economics, spatial planning, decision science and/or interdisciplinary research - demonstrating your commitment to conservation impact.

We are very open to applications from candidates from atypical backgrounds and career paths, irrespective of geographical, sectoral and inter-organisational mobility. Career breaks will not be penalised. We also particularly welcome candidates who identify as other than male and from non-white ethnicities. Our new colleagues will receive support and mentoring on career development from senior members of DICE.

Key accountabilities

- Play a key role in the E3 'Sharing Space for Nature' initiative by developing and publishing state-of-the-art research, in collaboration with DICE colleagues, project partners and postgraduate students.
- Ensure the success of the different online and in-person research/outreach events linked to the E3 initiative.
- Build the E3 network and develop new opportunities and partnerships.

Key duties

The following are the main duties for the job. Other duties, commensurate with the grading of the job, may also be assigned from time to time.

- Undertake original, high-quality research and publish in leading journals.
- Support the activities of the E3 initiative to achieve the overarching objectives.
- Co-supervise and mentor postgraduate researchers.
- Develop partnerships with conservation stakeholders.
- Co-organise and participate in research/outreach events.
- Present and promote the research findings at national and international meetings.
- Engage on a continuous and meaningful basis with colleagues in DICE and contribute to a cohesive and collegial work environment.

- Such other duties, commensurate with the grading of the post that may be assigned by the Director of DICE or their nominee.

Internal & external relationships

- Internal:** The successful candidate will be expected to interact with other academic and administrative staff within DICE and the School of Natural Sciences, as well as other departments across the University (e.g. HR and Research Services).
- External:** The successful candidate may be expected to interact with funding bodies, local businesses, local, national, international and EU government departments, charities and other not-for-profit organisations, and appropriate professional bodies.

Health, safety & wellbeing considerations

This job involves undertaking duties which include the following health, safety and wellbeing considerations:

- Regular use of Screen Display Equipment
- Overseas travel is a requirement of the role

Person specification

The person specification details the necessary skills, qualifications, experience or other attributes needed to carry out the job. Applications will be measured against the criteria published below.

Selection panels will be looking for clear evidence and examples in an application, or cover letter (where applicable), which back-up any assertions made in relation to each criterion.

Essential Criteria:

- PhD in marine conservation science or a relevant subject, or equivalent (A)
- Experience of research publications relevant to marine biodiversity conservation, as evidenced by citation record (e.g. in Web of Knowledge or Scopus), commensurate with the number of years since PhD completion (A)
- Specialist knowledge of, and research experience in, a field relevant to marine conservation science (A)
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills (I,T)
- Ability to conduct impactful research (I,T)
- Good organisational, administrative and IT skills (I)
- Effective team working skills and an ability to exercise personal responsibility (I,T)
- A willingness to embrace the interdisciplinary environment found in DICE and to collaborate with colleagues within and beyond DICE (I)
- A willingness to contribute to the development of the DICE's research, impact and other activities (I)
- Firm commitment to achieving the University's vision and values, with a passion for a transformative student experience and multidisciplinary, impactful research (I)
- Commitment to deliver and promote equality, diversity and inclusivity in the day to day work of the role (I)

Desirable Criteria:

- Experience of applying for research grant funding and generation of research income, commensurate with the number of years since PhD completion (A,I)
- Experience of organising research and/or outreach events (A,I)
- Experience of supervising student research projects (A,I)

Assessment stage: A - Application; I - Interview; T - Test/presentation at interview stage