

## **PhD Candidate on the project “IceAGenT - Ice Age Genomic Tracking of Refugia and Postglacial Dispersal”**

### **The position**

The University Museum at The Arctic University Museum and Academy of Fine Arts seeks 1-2 candidates who wish to obtain the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD). **The positions are on the project “IceAGenT - Ice Age Genomic Tracking of Refugia and Postglacial Dispersal”**. The positions are for four years, and vacant from 1st October 2019.

### **The project**

In the ERC funded project IceAGenT, we will develop innovative methods for studies of ancient and modern DNA. We will build on existing data as well as core new lakes for ancient sedimentary DNA. This will be supplemented by studies of contemporary phylogeography. The aim is to revisit glacial survival and postglacial dispersal, with the ultimate aim of unifying phylogeography with palaeoecology. The successful candidate will do metabarcoding and lithological analyses on lake-sediment cores from the northern Europe to obtain information on past vascular plant species. This will be supplemented by studies on past and current phylogeography.

The PhD position is for a fixed term, with the objective of completion of training and research to the level of a doctoral degree. Admission to a PhD programme is a prerequisite for employment, and the programme period starts on commencement of the position. The PhD Candidate will participate in The Faculty of biosciences, fisheries and economics’ organized research training or alternative training organized by (for example) the research school in biosystematics (<http://www.forbio.uio.no/>). The PhD project will be completed during the period of employment. Information about the application process for admission to the PhD programme, application form and regulations for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) are available at [this site](#).

### **The position’s affiliation**

The position is attached to the University Museum. The University Museum is responsible for research, dissemination and collection of both natural history and cultural-historical material from Northern Norway. The position is attached to the scientific community within Natural Sciences, which has the responsibility for developing and maintaining scientific collections of objects as well as public outreach, including the Tromsø Arctic Alpine Botanical Garden. Natural Sciences has a permanent staff of 16, of which nine are in academic positions. At the moment, four PhD students, two postdocs and two researcher are connected to the Natural Sciences, and we have laboratories for modern and ancient DNA analyses. The position is within the research group for Ecosystem Genomics, which currently host five large projects: [Norwegian Barcode of Life](#), [ECOGEN](#), ERC – [TerrACE](#), Biodiversa FATE, and ERC - [IceAGenT](#). For more information about Natural Sciences, visit [this site](#).

### **Contact**

Further information about the position is available by contacting the project leader, Professor Inger Greve Alsos, +47 77 62 07 96, [inger.g.alsos@uit](mailto:inger.g.alsos@uit).

### **Qualifications**

The successful applicant must fulfil the requirements for admission to the faculty's PhD programme as described by Regulations for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) at UiT The Arctic University of Norway (see below). In addition, he/she must be able to document proficiency in English equivalent to the Norwegian Higher Education Entrance Qualification, as described in the [PhD regulations at UiT](#).

This position requires a Master's degree in biology. Experience in plant ecology is most relevant, and experience in phylogeography, palaeoecology, molecular biology, and bioinformatics/biostatistics are advantages. English language skills are required. Scandinavian language skills are advantages. Personal fit to the team and teamwork skills are important. Average physical condition is sufficient for the fieldwork. It's preferable with a driver's license.

The applicant must present a one-page outline with suggestions for the PhD project, including brief descriptions of aims and methods.

During the assessment emphasis will be put on your potential for research, motivation and personal suitability for the position. Emphasis shall also be attached to personal suitability

The position requires admission to the PhD programme. Information about requirements and the PhD programme is available here: <https://uit.no/bfe/phd>

*Qualification with a Master's degree is required before commencement in the position. If you are near completion of your Master's degree, you may still apply and submit a draft version of the thesis. You must document completion of your degree before commencement in the position.*

*Language skills - adapt according to requirement: Documented fluency in English is required, and working knowledge of Norwegian or a Scandinavian language is desirable.*

#### **We offer**

- Involvement in an interesting research project
- A good academic environment with dedicated colleagues
- A large degree of independence in work
- Flexible working hours and a state collective pay agreement
- Pension scheme through the state pension fund

The appointment is for a period of 4 years, and the nominal length of the PhD program is three years. The fourth year is distributed as 25 % of each year, and will consist of (teaching or other duties for the department)/three years.

Remuneration of PhD positions are in state salary code 1017 . A compulsory contribution of 2% to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund will be deducted.

More practical information for working and living in Norway can be found here: [Welcome to UiT!](#)

### **Application**

Your application must include:

- Cover letter explaining your motivation and research interests
- CV - summarizing education, positions and academic work
- Diplomas and transcripts from completed degrees
- Documentation on English [proficiency](#)
- 2-3 references with contact details
- Master thesis, and any other academic works
- Project description (1-2 pages)

Documentation has to be in English or a Scandinavian language. We only accept applications through Jobbnorge.

### **General**

The appointment is made in accordance with State regulations and guidelines at UiT. At our website, you will find more [information for applicants](#).

As many as possible should have the opportunity to undertake organized research training. If you already hold a PhD or have equivalent competence, we will not appoint you to this position.

A good work environment is characterized by diversity. We encourage qualified candidates to apply, regardless of their gender, functional capacity or cultural background. UiT will emphasize making the necessary adaptations to the working conditions for employees with reduced functional ability

According to the Norwegian Freedom and Information Act (Offentleglova) information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

### ***UiT – Developing the High North***

*[UiT The Arctic University of Norway](#) is a multi-campus research university and the northernmost university of the world. Our central location in the High North, our broad and diverse research and study portfolio, and our interdisciplinary qualities make us uniquely suited to meet the challenges of the future. At UiT you can explore global issues from a close-up perspective.*

*Credibility, academic freedom, closeness, creativity and commitment shall be hallmarks of the relationship between our employees, between our employees and our students and between UiT and our partners.*