

Teaching and Research Assistant Archaeobotany (0.8 fte) (217059)

Organisation

The Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA) is a research body of the University of Groningen, a global top 100 University. The institute engages in research in Northwest Europe, the Mediterranean and the Polar regions, and stimulates and integrates fundamental research on past human societies and their environments, from Paleolithic hunter-gatherers to complex urban societies. The institute facilitates research and fieldwork through its laboratories and technical support teams. It is related to the Department of Archaeology where teaching takes place. For the fifth time in a row, teaching at the Department has been awarded the best BA Archaeology program in The Netherlands, while in 2016 also its MA was nominated.

Archaeobotany at the University of Groningen is an essential part of research and education. Archaeobotany is offered at BA and MA level and beyond. Research activities focus on the reconstruction of former vegetation and human impact, and on the reconstruction of former food economies during the late Pleistocene and Holocene with a cross-regional approach that spans from Western Europe to the Mediterranean region, the Near East and North Africa. Students and staff participate in fieldwork, including excavations and ethno-archaeobotanical research. Current research is mainly based on the analysis of plant macro remains (seeds s.l.), whereas GIA intends to continue with wood and pollen in the near future as well. The unit is facilitated with its own laboratory and an extensive reference collection of both recent plant material (over 40,000 accessions) and subfossil plant material (including many key sites of the Near East).

Relevant webpages:

<https://www.rug.nl/research/groningen-institute-of-archaeology/>

Job description

The candidate works in close relation with the professor of Archaeobotany and a teaching and research assistant, and supports research and education activities.

The main tasks of the function are:

- organizing and supporting the teaching and training activities in Archaeobotany, including lab courses of classes and individual students
- analysis of plant remains (seeds, fruits and other identifiable plant parts) from archaeological sites from Western Europe, the Mediterranean region, the Near East and North Africa, preserved in wet and dry (charred and desiccated) conditions
- curation of reference collections and of archaeobotanical samples
- facilitating students to work in the laboratory
- participation in fieldwork, research visits in the Netherlands and abroad (sometimes in remote locations)
- support research output (articles, books, journal special issues, conferences) and grant applications
- participation in outreach activities (especially aimed at high school students).

Qualifications

We are looking for a candidate with the following credentials:

- proven expertise in Archaeology, Biology or related field
- experience in botanical analysis in Europe and/or Mediterranean-Near East-North Africa
- experience in education and research (support)
- knowledge of instrument technology sufficient to use and maintain basic lab equipment
- computer skills: database, basic statistics (Excel) and preferably some experience with social media, basic web design and maintenance
- written and oral fluency in Dutch or ability and willingness to acquire reading and speaking skills in Dutch within two years of appointment
- written and oral fluency in English (near native)
- hands-on and practical approach to work, and no 9-5 mentality

- valid driving license
- representative, client oriented personality
- ability to work independently, within a team and under supervision.

Conditions of employment

The University of Groningen is offering a salary based on qualifications and experience between € 2,431 and € 3,247 (scale 8 Dutch Universities) gross per month for a fulltime position. The appointment will be initially for two years at 0.8 fte. Before the end of the temporary appointment, an assessment of performance will take place based on established criteria. A positive appraisal will lead to a permanent position. The position is defined according to the University Job Ranking profile 'Education/Research Officer 3'.

Job interviews will be held end of March 2017. Several interviews and/or a practical assignment can be part of the selection procedure.

How to apply

Are you excited about working for a number 1 institute of a global top 100 University? Please apply for this position by submitting your application letter including your motivation, curriculum vitae, and publications (if applicable) until 10 March / before 11 March Dutch local time by means of the application form (click on "Apply" below on the advertisement on the university website).

Unsolicited marketing is not appreciated.

Information

For information you can contact:

Prof. René Cappers, +31 50 3636744, r.t.j.cappers@rug.nl

(please do not use for applications)

Additional information

Please use the apply button on our website for submitting your application documents:

<http://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/job-opportunities/overview?details=00347-02S0005DLP>