CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
for Science Communication Specialists
to sail as an Onboard Outreach Officer
during IODP Expedition 377: Arctic Ocean Paleoceanography “ArcOP”,
a unique ECORD mission-specific platform expedition

The deadline to apply is 1 June 2021

The European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD) offers you the unique opportunity to sail in the framework of the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP), an international research programme for scientific drilling at sea.

Science communication specialists (e.g., science writers, bloggers, videographers, etc.) are invited to apply to sail on an upcoming IODP expedition using a mission-specific platform (MSP) approach. They will work in the Arctic Sea during the offshore phase, and then at the IODP Bremen Core Repository at the University of Bremen, Germany, during the subsequent onshore phase.

We are looking for applicants with a strong science background or experience in communicating scientific topics through film, video, written word or art, who are comfortable using the web, multimedia and social media tools, and have a passion for sharing the excitement of science with students, educators and the general public. It is also advantageous to be flexible, adventurous, and good at working with all types of people.

The post of Onboard Outreach Officer is a unique opportunity allowing for participation in a major scientific expedition which aims to answer research questions about climate change of direct societal relevance. You will collaborate with an international team of passionate senior and early career researchers and professional ship crews to document this complex international scientific expedition that will employ multiple vessels in order to overcome difficult environmental conditions in the Arctic Sea.

The post-holder will receive a payment of up to 30,000 USD from ECORD (plus associated travel and subsistence costs – see below).

Further information about the expedition can be found on the ECORD website at:
http://www.ecord.org/expedition377/
PERSON SPECIFICATION

• Ability to communicate new and complex information effectively, engaging the interest and enthusiasm of target audiences
• Strong background in science and outreach
• Creativity
• Digital fluency and an ability to engage audiences through social media and blog posts
• Proficiency in photography
• Skills in graphic design and video editing
• Skills in writing science-focused articles and creating a range of digital materials for a variety of audiences (including the general public)
• A strong portfolio of science communication activities
• Ability to work effectively and collegiately as a part of an interdisciplinary team
• Readiness to spend ~50 days offshore on a ship in the Arctic Sea

TIMING

The expedition schedule is planned as follows:

• The offshore phase will commence in August - September 2022, sailing from Tromsø, Norway (TBC). The length of the offshore phase is 50 days
• The Onshore Science phase will be held in Bremen in late 2022/early 2023 – exact dates to be confirmed. The length of the onshore phase will be approximately four weeks

DELIVERABLES

• Video materials (including high-resolution footage)
• Blog posts
• Active social media campaign
• Daily/weekly short films
• Photographs (including high resolution images for print)
• Other materials, depending on your vision for the role (see Application Process below)

*All digital materials (photographs, video, graphics) produced by the Onboard Outreach Officer during their work will need to be delivered to ECORD on USB/DVD or through cloud sharing. ECORD/IODP reserves the right to freely use these materials during and after the expedition for an unlimited time with appropriate credit lines (copyrights belonging to the author AND to ECORD/IODP).

REMUNERATION

The post-holder will receive a payment of up to 30,000 USD from ECORD based on a contract with The French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS). Accommodation and food will be provided by ECORD during the offshore stage and will be refunded for the onshore stage. In addition, ECORD will provide support for travel expenses (flights, local transportation, accommodation and meals) up to 2500 Euros for Onboard Outreach Officers from ECORD member countries.
APPLICATION PROCESS

If you would like to apply, please submit the following to the ESSAC Office:

- A motivation letter outlining your specific interests in this expedition
- An up-to-date curriculum vitae or resume
- A letter of recommendation (e.g., from a recent client)
- Contact information for two additional references
- A proposal outlining your vision for science communication during IODP Expedition 377:
  This proposal (maximum length of two-pages) should describe projects that you would like to carry out while sailing on the expedition and during post-expedition activities.
  We especially welcome projects that are sustainable after the expedition (especially those generating materials or information that can be hosted on the ECORD webpages)
- Link to a portfolio of previous work

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Please send your application directly to the ESSAC Office (essac@plymouth.ac.uk).

OTHER INFORMATION

The International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) is an international marine research program that explores Earth’s history and structure recorded in seafloor sediments and rocks, and monitors subseafloor environments. IODP is led by the international partnership between the United States of America, Japan, Europe, China, India, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and Korea and involves over 23 countries. ECORD is a consortium of 14 European countries plus Canada. Building on more than 30 years of experience in scientific ocean drilling and related research, the program uses a variety of drill ships to carry out scientific ocean geoscience research.

MSP Onboard Outreach Officers participate on board the ship to share the science story with students, families, and the general public. They have the opportunity to learn shipboard science alongside the expedition scientists and translate the exciting science happening on board through creation of blogs, videos, graphics and infographics, social networking posts, live ship-to-shore video events.. They also have the opportunity to attend the Onshore Science phase, which is held in Bremen, Germany. This is where the whole science team get together and analyze, log and sample the core material.

Topics of investigations on IODP expeditions range from Climate Change to Deep Biosphere, Planetary Dynamics and Geohazards, and are defined in the IODP Science Plan Illuminating Earth’s Past, Present and Future (http://www.iodp.org/science-plan-for-2013-2023). It is advised that the candidates familiarize themselves also with the new IODP 2050 Science Framework available at http://iodp.org/2050-science-framework

After the expedition is finished, the ECORD Onboard Outreach Officer should send the ESSAC Office a summary of his/her trip and a request for reimbursement of travel expenses with a plan of future outreach activities based on the experience at sea. Co-financing by IODP national offices is desired. The ESSAC Office can provide further information about your IODP National Office (if applicable) or ESSAC delegate. Please also visit the following links:


For further information or questions please contact:

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Ulrike Prange, ESO Media Relations – uprange@marum.de