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Vacatures

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PhD student in wildfire smoke sampling using drones

Voor 1.0 fte
Vacaturenummer 16445
VU onderdeel: Extern



Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is a leading, innovative and growing university that is at the heart of society and actively contributes to new developments in teaching and research. Our university has ten faculties which span a wide range of disciplines, as well as several institutes, foundations, research centres, and support services. Its campus is located in the fastest-growing economic region in the Netherlands (the Zuidas district of Amsterdam), and provides work for over 4,500 staff and scientific education for more than 23,000 students.

The Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences (FALW) offers a range of Bachelor and Master programmes. Research at the faculty focuses on the fields of the life sciences, health sciences, environmental sciences and earth sciences. World-class teaching and cutting-edge research activities go hand in hand. FALW works together with other faculties like medicine, exact sciences, economics, psychology and social sciences. The faculty's research facilities can be categorized as excellent. The faculty's international focus fosters cross-border collaboration, leading to substantially improved quality and greater impact of our research results

Project

This vacancy is one of 4 new positions within a prestigious "Vici" project funded by the Dutch Scientific Organisation (NWO). In this project field work, remote sensing, and atmospheric and biogeochemical modeling will be combined to better understand the climate impact of forest fires.

Tasks

The PhD student will set-up and conduct field campaigns mostly in tropical countries to sample smoke from fires in savannas and forests using drones. Measurements will then be coupled with satellite data of fire and vegetation characteristics using GIS or computer modeling, and shared with the modelers in the project. The work should lead to publications in the peer-reviewed literature that will be used to write a PhD thesis. The applicant should be able to deal with complex logistical issues for example regarding permits in the tropical countries where measurements will be made and spend a substantial amount of time abroad.

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Requirements

- MSc. in environmental or earth sciences or related field but with proven interest in earth sciences;
- ability to work independently in challenging conditions;
- affinity with high-end scientific equipment;
- programming or GIS skills;
- excellent ability to communicate in both written and spoken English, knowledge of other languages including French, Portuguese, or Bahasa Indonesia is advantageous;
- strong scientific motivation;
- good social skills and extensive international travel experience;
- holder of driver's license.

Further particulars

The appointment will be initially for 1 year. After satisfactory evaluation of the initial appointment, it can be extended for a total duration of 4 years

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- remuneration of 8,3% end-of-year bonus and 8% holiday allowance
- solid pension scheme (ABP);
- possibilities to work part-time but at least 80%
- a minimum of 29 holidays in case of full-time employment;
- possibilities to save up holidays for sabbatical leave;

Salary

The salary will be in accordance with university regulations for academic personnel, and amounts € 2174,- gross per month in the first year up to € 2779,- in the fourth year based on a full-time employment.

Information

For additional information please contact Prof. dr. G.R. van der Werf:

phone: +31 20 598 5687

e-mail: g.r.vander.werf@vu.nl

website: <http://www.falw.vu/~qwerf/> and <http://www.globalfiredata.org>

Application

Applicants should send a cover letter with their motivation, CV, and MSc thesis before October 1st to g.r.vander.werf@vu.nl with the vacancy number in the subject header.

Any other correspondence in response to this advertisement will not be dealt with.

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