



DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology (C•I•B)

Professor

(Ref. NW10/189/0612)

(Five-year Contract Appointment)

The Centre for Invasion Biology (C-I-B) is one of the Centres of Excellence funded by the South African Department of Science & Technology and administered by the National Research Foundation. The C-I-B is an inter-disciplinary, inter-institutional research network headquartered at Stellenbosch University in the Western Cape Province (50 km from Cape Town in the heart of South Africa's winelands), with a subsidiary hub at the University of Pretoria. The main focus of the C-I-B is research and capacity development to reduce the rate and impacts of biological invasions in a changing natural and socio-political environment. Our work is undertaken in large measure through postgraduate student training.

The C-I-B currently comprises six, full-time academic staff, an additional 15 core team members who are salaried staff of other higher education and public research institutions, 20 permanent and contract support staff, and six research associates. The C-I-B currently hosts 18 postdoctoral associates and funds 63 postgraduate students at different levels.

The C-I-B has an exceptional record of knowledge production and postgraduate student training in the biological sciences, undertaken by award-winning, world-class scientists. It is internationally recognised for its research, capacity development and advice on biological invasions in the context of environmental change. Further details of the C-I-B's activities and achievements are available at www.sun.ac.za/cib.

The C-I-B wishes to appoint a senior, full-time, academic researcher to be based at the Stellenbosch hub who will contribute to all five of the C-I-B's key performance areas: research; education and training; networking; service provision; and knowledge brokerage. An internationally competitive remuneration package is offered, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Funding for the position is guaranteed for five years with full benefits. Contract renewal will be subject to continued funding of the C-I-B.

We wish to appoint to this position a person of high academic standing, with a substantial international reputation as a world leader in the field of invasion ecology. S/he will report to the Director of the C-I-B.

Duties: Developing a vibrant and productive research group, including graduate students, postdoctoral associates and collaborators, in a field of invasion ecology in line with the C-I-B's mission and key performance areas • securing external grant funding to support such research • supervision of graduate students at Master's and PhD levels • publication of research papers in top international journals • assistance with the strategic management and development of the C-I-B, including securing continued funding for own and other research activities • involvement with activities in all key performance areas, viz. research, education and training, networking, service provision, and knowledge brokerage.

Requirements: PhD in Biology or in another field clearly aligned with the activities of the C-I-B • a distinguished research and publication record and international recognition in invasion ecology • proven ability to develop and lead an outstanding research group, including supervision of postgraduate student research.

Recommendation: Experience in strategic management and wider leadership in science or environmental policy.

Commencement of duties: As soon as possible

Closing date: 1 August 2012

Enquiries regarding the job content: Prof. Dave Richardson on 021 808 3711

Enquiries regarding remuneration and benefits: Human Resources Client Services Centre on 021 808 2753

The University will consider all applications in terms of its Employment Equity Plan, which acknowledges the need to diversify the demographic composition of the staff corps, especially with regard to the appointment of suitable candidates from the designated groups.

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Your application, comprising a comprehensive curriculum vitae (including the names and contact details of at least two referees), a statement of current and planned research ideas, and a letter of motivation must reach the University before or on the closing date of the advertised post.

Apply online at <http://www.sun.ac.za/vacancies>

It is important that applicants request their referees to forward confidential reports by the closing date to vacanciesSET@sun.ac.za

Candidates may be subjected to appropriate psychometric testing and other selection instruments.