



**CAN YOU
SEE EVEN
FURTHER?**

**WE LIVE IN A FAST-CHANGING WORLD
AND WE FACE A RANGE OF SIGNIFICANT
SOCIAL ISSUES.**

More than ever before, we need people who look further. People who look further than what is obvious, what is familiar. Further than their own interests. And further than the confines of their own field. Because far-sighted people are in the right place at VU University Amsterdam. A university which is at the very heart of society. Where ground-breaking research goes hand in hand with high-quality teaching. With a cross-section of students and staff who are just as diverse as today's society. A university which is outward-looking.
VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM: LOOKING FURTHER!

Three Postdoc positions in Forensic and Archaeology Provenancing f/m

For 1.0 fte (full-time)

Vacancy number: 1.2013.00081

Faculty

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, health, environmental and Earth sciences. The faculty has excellent research facilities. The faculty's international focus fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration, leading to substantially improved quality and greater impact of our research results. World-class teaching and cutting-edge research activities go hand in hand.

Research Group

The Deep Earth and Planetary Science research group of the Department of Earth Sciences consists of ~ 30 research and technical staff. Petrological and geochemical research covers a diverse set of research questions that range from the formation and differentiation of the terrestrial planets to the environmental impact of human activity. This vibrant and internationally renowned group has consistently obtained major EU and national funding for infrastructure investment and runs state-of-the-art petrological and geochemical facilities.

Recently a European Research Council Synergy Grant (~ Euro15M) was awarded for the project "NEXUS1492". New World Encounters in a Globalising World". The project investigates the impacts of colonial encounters in the Caribbean, the nexus of the first interactions between the New and the Old World. NEXUS1492 will address intercultural Amerindian-European-African dynamics at multiple temporal and spatial scales across the historical divide of 1492. The trans-disciplinary team of four PIs (Hofmann & Willems, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Leiden; Brandes, Network Science, Konstanz; Davies, isotopic provenance, VU) and their research groups of archaeologists, social, natural and computer scientists, and heritage experts will pioneer new analytical tools, and apply multi-disciplinary cutting-edge techniques, theoretical frameworks and skill sets to provide a novel perspective on New World encounters in a globalising world. The project will offer a stimulating work environment and unique opportunity to integrate in a large international team of experts to develop on-the-job academic skills.

Tasks

In the framework of this recently awarded European Research Council Synergy Grant, which will start on September 1st 2013, > 15 vacancies are available. Of a total of five vacancies which are at the VU University we have three Postdoc positions to study:

Provenancing in Forensic and Archaeological Sciences

Three postdoc positions for between two and five years. The roles of the specific positions can be briefly summarised as follows:



Postdoc position 1

Explore the application of novel geochemical-isotopic forensic and provenancing techniques in an archaeological and/or forensic science context.

Postdoc position 2

Optimise and develop in situ microdrilling and laser ablation sampling techniques for the trace element and isotopic analysis of archaeological artefacts.

Postdoc position 3

Better quantify the geological-geomorphological-climate processes that control the isotope geochemical signals used to obtain provenance information in archaeological studies; i.e. origin of isoscapes.

Requirements

You must have an MSc degree or PhD with a strong background in the physical sciences and training in analytical techniques and/or biology/geology/archaeology. Furthermore you must have excellent written and verbal communication skills in English. Knowledge of Spanish and/or French will be beneficial to field work in the Caribbean. We expect a keenness to participate in archaeological and provenancing fieldwork in the Caribbean and to collaborate with local authorities and an interest in the public dissemination of scientific results.

Further particulars

The initial appointment will be for a period of 1 year. After satisfactory evaluation of the initial appointment, it can be extended for a total duration of 5 years. You can find information about our excellent fringe benefits of employment at www.workingatvu.nl like:

- remuneration of 8,3% end-of-year bonus and 8% holiday allowance;
- solid pension scheme (ABP);
- generous contribution (70%) commuting allowance based on public transport;
- discounts on collective insurances (healthcare- and car insurance).

Salary

The salary will be in accordance with university regulations for academic personnel and depending on experience, range from a minimum of €3.007,- up to a maximum of €3.831,- gross per month (salary scale 10.5 up to salary scale 11 max) based on a fulltime employment.

Information

For additional information over specific positions please contact:

Prof. Dr. G.R. Davies

Phone number +31 (0)20 5987329

E-mail: g.r.davies@vu.nl

For further details of the full NEXUS1492 grant proposal, please contact:

H.L. Mickleburgh (Project Manager)

Universiteit Leiden

Faculty of Archaeology

P.O. Box 9515

2300 RA, Leiden, the Netherlands

h.l.mickleburgh@arch.leidenuniv.nl

Application

You are requested to write a letter in which you describe your abilities and motivation (max 2000 words), accompanied by a curriculum vitae and full contact details of at least two referees. Written applications should be sent before May 1st, 2013 to: VU University Amsterdam, attn. Mrs. F. Bosse, secretary, De Boelelaan 1085, 1081 HV Amsterdam, The Netherlands. It is also possible to apply by e-mail to: f.bosse@vu.nl

Please mention the vacancy number in the e-mail header or at the top of your letter and on the envelope.

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