



Research Associate Position

MEOPAR Response Core

Closing Date: October 9, 2015, or until position filled

One Research Associate position is available immediately to support the MEOPAR network's new Response Core.

Marine Environmental Observation, Prediction and Response (MEOPAR) Network www.meopar.ca

The vision of MEOPAR is to inspire and enable Canadian leadership in marine environmental observation, prediction, and response. MEOPAR will deliver knowledge, technology, and people to enable Canada's communities and industry to enhance resilience and economic opportunity through an informed relationship with the changing marine environment.

Established in 2012, the Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR) is a team of outstanding Canadian researchers dedicated to addressing critical issues related to human activity in the marine environment, and the impact of marine hazards on human activities in coastal regions. Through strong multidisciplinary training, MEOPAR fosters highly qualified personnel capable of placing Canada at the forefront of marine research and hazard management.

MEOPAR Response Core

MEOPAR established a Response Core in September 2015 that, together with the existing Prediction and Observation Cores, will provide technical and scientific support across the Network's funded projects. In the context of MEOPAR, **Response refers to the development of solutions** to address the likelihood and/or consequences of marine-related hazards. The scope thus includes but is much broader than the traditional concept of emergency response – it also encompasses investigations of vulnerability, preparedness, consequence analysis, prevention, mitigation, resilience, recovery, community planning, policy, and regulation.

The goals of the new Response Core are: (1) to provide a forum for sharing of expertise and ideas regarding impacts and development of solutions, emphasizing but not limited to social science knowledge; (2) to support projects seeking to do more research on Response, emphasizing extensions of existing MEOPAR projects and implications for policies and decision-making; and (3) to facilitate stakeholder engagement in MEOPAR so as to mobilize the use of knowledge to reduce marine-related risks and develop effective solutions.

Research Associate Position

One research associate position is available for a highly qualified individual to work with the Response Core steering committee and across the MEOPAR network to address key research and implementation needs for the new Core. The successful candidate will:

- Compile a directory of current Response-related expertise and research that currently exist within MEOPAR. This task will also involve identification of priority gaps and opportunities for synergies;



- Organize Response Core discussion spaces at MEOPAR gatherings, such as the Annual Scientific Meeting;
- Assist in convening a workshop on post-disaster data collection related to marine hazard impacts and solutions;
- Assist in the development of other activities, including funded activities, in support of the Response Core's mandate;
- Conduct self-directed research within the scope of the Response Core.

Qualifications and Skills

- Ph.D. in the social sciences (broadly defined to include social science disciplines, law, policy, planning, etc.) or in an interdisciplinary field with a strong social science component;
- Strong interest in and commitment toward the reduction of marine and/or coastal risks;
- Experience studying risks, preferably in relation to marine and/or coastal hazards and preferably in the Canadian context;
- Experience working on interdisciplinary projects and with interdisciplinary teams;
- Excellent ability to communicate across disciplines, especially between the natural and social sciences;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English;
- Capacity to work in a self-directed manner and within a team environment;
- Capacity to produce peer-reviewed publications;
- Ability to read/speak French would be an asset.

Start Date

The position is available immediately. MEOPAR would like the successful candidate to start as soon as possible.

Employment Period

The successful candidate must be able to commit to the Research Associate appointment through March 2017, which is the end of the current MEOPAR funding cycle. Should MEOPAR be successfully renewed, the position may extend beyond March 2017.

Other Terms

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications. The position would ideally be full-time but may be less than full-time depending on the applicant's other commitments. It would ideally be held in either Halifax, NS (at Dalhousie University) or Vancouver, BC (at the University of British Columbia). Other terms of the position can be negotiated.

Application Procedure

Applicants should submit a C.V., a statement of research interests, and contact information for three referees to Janet Marshall at Janet.Marshall@meopar.ca, with "ATTN: Response Core Research Associate Position" in the subject line. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

Additional Information

Address enquiries to: Neil Gall, Executive Director of MEOPAR, neil.gall@meopar.ca, (t) 902.494.4386.