



Vacancy: PhD student in Sustainability Science

Ref. No. SU FV-0565-16

Closing date: 30 April 2016.

The Global Economic Dynamics and the Biosphere (GEDB) is a five-year Academy research programme at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The Programme addresses the economic dynamics of global change and its implications for a sustainable future, and is funded by the Erling-Persson Family Foundation. More information about the programme: www.gedb.se

GEDB is now hiring a PhD student to work on the role of financial actors, instruments and flows on the biosphere, as part of 4-year Mistra-funded research program (2016–2019) “Putting Financial Systems to Work for Sustainability”.

The student will be employed at GEDB, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences but be formally admitted to the PhD program in Sustainability Science through the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC). The mission of the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) is to advance research for biosphere stewardship and innovation. Research at the SRC applies a social-ecological systems perspective and resilience thinking to generate knowledge and understanding to enable social-ecological transformations towards sustainable futures. Research is advanced through transdisciplinary collaboration with international leading researchers, research environments worldwide, and environmental actors.

The SRC aims to foster new generations of researchers and academic leaders through our Resilience Research School. The school equips students with a theoretical and practical foundation in Sustainability Science with a focus on resilience in social-ecological systems. Students are encouraged to develop new approaches that integrate methods and concepts from the social, natural and applied sciences. Emphasis is placed on developing student ability to define a problem, develop research methods, and communicate research findings within international scientific and science-policy discussions.

Project description

The PhD student will explore the role of financial actors, instruments and flows on the biosphere. It is part of a new project of a 4-year Mistra-funded research program (2016–2019) “Putting Financial Systems to Work for Sustainability”.

The PhD student will analyze recent developments in “green” financial innovation, identify relevant governance dimensions, and examine how these innovations connect to social-ecological challenges. Research questions are related to policy changes that have facilitated the emergence of “green” financial innovation such as “green bonds”; explore points of conflict or tensions, as well as governance gaps, as these financial instruments are implemented on the ground; and identify governance options – including legislation, certification, mechanisms for deliberation, transparency and participation, and similar safeguards – from a social-ecological perspective.

The PhD student will be part of the Resilience Research School at SRC. The PhD student will contribute to ongoing work at the Global Economic Dynamics and the Biosphere Programme (GEDB) at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, and interact closely with the PhD student group at the SRC. A team of senior scientists championing the research stream on financial systems and the biosphere will function as the supervisory team for the PhD candidate, including Dr. Thomas Hahn and Associate Professors Victor Galaz and Beatrice Crona.

Qualification requirements

To be admitted as a PhD student at the Stockholm Resilience Centre one must be eligible to be admitted to a PhD Programme in Natural Science at Stockholm University. In order to meet *the general entry requirements*, the applicant must have completed a second-cycle degree, completed courses equivalent to at least 240 higher education credits, of which 60 credits must be in the second cycle, or have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.



Specific entry requirements for admission to postgraduate studies in Sustainability Science are that the applicant has a total of at least 30 credits, or equivalent, at advanced level in natural science, as well as a thesis of at least 30 credits at advanced level in a relevant subject, or equivalent knowledge.

Only a person who will be or has already been admitted to a third-cycle programme may be appointed to a doctoral studentship. The primary assessment criteria in appointing a doctoral student should be the capacity to benefit from the training.

Selection

The selection among the eligible candidates will be based on:

- experience conducting interdisciplinary research bridging the fields of ecology, institutional analysis and governance studies;
- experience working with issues related to financial innovation or financial instruments;
- knowledge of scientific theory and methodology including, statistical analysis and modelling and/or research design;
- analytical ability as demonstrated by scientific reports, papers or degree project theses;
- the applicants personal references;
- willingness and ability to work as part of a transdisciplinary team;
- communication and presentation skills.

Admission Regulations for Doctoral Studies at Stockholm University are available at: www.regelboken.su.se.

Terms of employment

The term of the initial contract may not exceed one year. The employment may be extended for a maximum of two years at a time. However, the total period of employment may not exceed the equivalent of four years of full-time study.

Doctoral students should primarily devote themselves to their own education, but may engage in teaching, research, and administration corresponding to a maximum of 20 % of a full-time position.

Please note that admission decisions cannot be appealed.

Contact

For more information about the Resilience Research School or sustainability science at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, please contact Head of Subject, Prof. Garry Peterson, telephone: +46 73 707 85 92, garry.peterson@su.se. For more information on the PhD research, please contact the supervisor Victor Galaz, victor.galaz@su.se.

Union representatives at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

Magnus Lundgren (SACO), phone: 08-6739525 and Peter Jacobsson (ST), phone: 08-6739792.

Application

Apply for the position through the Stockholm University's central recruitment system by following this link:

https://web103.reachmee.com/ext/I007/927/apply?site=8&lang=UK&validator=d3e6a58db9058c5eab7ea3e324f063f6&job_id=1174

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete in accordance with the instructions in the job advertisement, and that it is submitted before the deadline.

Please include the following information with your application



- Your contact details and personal data
- Your highest degree
- Your language skills
- Contact details for 2–3 references

and, in addition, please include the following documents

- Cover letter
- CV – degrees and other completed courses, work experience and a list of degree projects/theses/publications
- Research proposal (no more than 3 pages) describing:
 - why you are interested in the field/project described in the advertisement
 - why and how you wish to complete the project
 - what makes you suitable for the project in question
- Degree certificates and grades confirming that you meet the general and specific entry requirements (no more than 6 files)
- Letters of recommendation (no more than 3 files)
- Include electronic copies of 3 most relevant works (degree projects or published articles) (no more than 3 files).

The instructions for applicants are available at: <http://www.su.se/english/about/vacancies/instructions-applicants>

You are welcome to apply!

Closing date: 30/04/2016