
Applications are invited for a two year position at the Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO) in collaboration with the Institute of Earth Sciences at the University of Iceland (IES):

Postdoctoral research position in glacial isostatic adjustment

The candidate will join the Nordic Centre of Excellence SVALI (<http://www.ncoe-svali.org>, supported by the Nordic Top-level Research Initiative, see below) and participate in joint efforts involving collection and interpretation of data, exploration of glaciological processes, development of Earth Systems Models and predicting future evolution of glaciers. The position will be one of 15–20 SVALI PhD student and PostDoc positions located at Nordic research institutes and universities.

The objective of the postdoctoral project is to develop detailed numerical models of glacial isostatic adjustment in Iceland. In particular, new estimates of current surface deformation (from GPS and InSAR measurements), and new observations and simulations of ice volume changes will be used to refine numerical models of crustal structure and mantle dynamics in Iceland. In addition, the project aims to include results from ongoing work including: (i) extension of glaciation history back to the Little Ice Age; (ii) extraction of uplift rates from observations of sea-level; and (iii) analysis of gravity changes due to ice-mass variations.

The SVALI project involves studies of glaciers in the N-Atlantic area, including Greenland and Svalbard, as well as Iceland. The postdoctoral fellow will collaborate closely with other SVALI partners, and participate in summer schools and workshops organized by SVALI team members.

Applicants should have: (i) a PhD degree in geophysics, or related fields at the time of appointment (early 2012); (ii) a good background in physics and mathematical analysis; (iii) strong computer programming skills (Unix/Linux based). Good communication skills and an ability to write scientific papers are essential.

The position will be based at the Icelandic Meteorological Office and the research will be conducted in close collaboration with scientists at the Institute of Earth Sciences, as well as other members of the SVALI group. The successful applicant is expected to start in early 2012. The starting time may be negotiated with the successful applicant depending on circumstances.

The deadline for application is **27 December 2011**.

Salary is according to the appropriate civil service level.

Applications and accompanying documents should preferably be submitted in electronic form by e-mail to borgar@vedur.is. Applicants should send a CV and a covering letter, which should

include the names and contact information of two individuals willing to supply letters of reference. Applications and accompanying documents that are not submitted in electronic form must be sent in duplicate to the Icelandic Meteorological Office, Bústaðavegur 7–9, IS-150 Reykjavík, Iceland. All applications will be answered and applicants will be informed about the appointment when a decision has been made.

For further information contact: Tómas Jóhannesson, Geophysicist at the Icelandic Meteorological Office (tj@vedur.is, tel. +354-522-6000), Jórunn Harðardóttir, Managing Director of Processing and Research (jorunn@vedur.is, tel. +354-522-6000), Borgar Ævar Axelsson, Human Resources Manager (borgar@vedur.is, tel.+354-522-6000), and Freysteinn Sigmundsson, Research Scientist, Institute of Earth Sciences of the University of Iceland (fs@hi.is, tel. +354-525-4491).

The Top-level Research Initiative and SVALI

The position is announced as a part of the project “Stability and Variations of Arctic Land Ice” (SVALI) under the Top-level Research Initiative (TRI, <http://www.toppforskningsinitiativet.org>), which is a major Nordic collaborative venture for studies of climate, energy and the environment. SVALI is a Nordic Centre of Excellence within the TRI sub-programme “Interaction between Climate Change and the Cryosphere” (ICCC), which aims to improve our understanding of stability, variations and dynamics of the cryosphere.

The overall aims of SVALI are: to quantify the current and future melt-rate of land-based ice in the Arctic and North-Atlantic region, to assess the consequences of decreasing land ice volume on sea level and ocean circulation, and to assess the societal consequences of current and future glacier variations. SVALI positions are announced internationally by open calls. An important element of the TRI programme is to enhance the mobility of scientists within the Nordic countries and internationally. When candidates are regarded as having similar scientific qualifications, the candidate from a country different than the institution making the call will be given priority.