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Top-level Research Initiative



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The Faculty of Earth Sciences of the University of Iceland and the Icelandic Meteorological Office hereby declare the following three year (2011–2014) position to be open for application:

### **PhD student position in glacier hydrology.**

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 students and PostDocs placed at Nordic research institutes and universities.

The research topic will be the time-dependent development of the subglacial hydraulic system of glaciers and it will involve physical modelling of the subglacial water flow. The candidate will study discharge time-series from selected hydrological stations operated by the Icelandic Meteorological Office close to glacier margins showing variations in the glacial discharge component on different time-scales. The position will include collaboration with research groups within SVALI that are involved in the development of Earth Systems Models with the aim to improve the physical representation of glaciers in such models.

Applicants should have: (i) a masters degree in geosciences or equivalent; (ii) have a good background in physics and mathematical analysis; (iii) a working knowledge of numerical methods and computer programming, and (iv) satisfy the requirements for admission into Doctorate studies at the Faculty of Earth Sciences of the University of Iceland, see: “<https://ugla.hi.is/kennsluskra/index.php?tab=nam&chapter=namsleid&id=090238&kennsluar=current>”. For a list of documents that need to accompany the application see “[http://www.hi.is/en/von/faculty\\_of\\_earth\\_sciences/studies/application](http://www.hi.is/en/von/faculty_of_earth_sciences/studies/application)” (note though that digital copies or photocopies of transcripts of university degree(s) are accepted).

The position will be based at the Icelandic Meteorological Office. The successful applicant is expected to start during the spring semester of 2011. The starting time may be negotiated with the applicant depending on circumstances.

The deadline for application is **30 March 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](mailto:borgar@vedur.is). Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter, which should include the names and contact information of two individuals who can 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 9, IS-150 Reykjavík, Iceland. All applications will be answered and applicants will be informed about the appointment when a decision has been taken.

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 Axelsson, Human Resources Manager (borgar@vedur.is, tel.+354-522-6000), and Helgi Björnsson, Research Professor, Institute of Earth Sciences of the University of Iceland (hb@raunvis.hi.is, tel. +354-525-4730).

### **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 general 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.