SEAS postdoctoral research fellow in topological and geometric machine learning for marine sustainability

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Through robust and close interaction with the world around us - globally, nationally and locally - we shall be instrumental in building a society based on knowledge, skills and attitudes.

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Video:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRdMR-PhbBQ&t=4s

Thematic area and supervisor
This position is connected to geometric and topological machine learning, the area of machine learning concerned with extracting and exploiting robust geometric information for the analysis of complex data.

The position is open to either an incoming or an outgoing candidate, see mobility rules.

The successful candidate will be employed at the Department of Informatics and included in the research group on machine learning and the Center for Data Science.

Information about the supervisor, research groups and research possibilities for the fellow is available here. For further details about the research possibilities please contact Associate Professor Nello Blaser.

About the SEAS fellowship programme
Shaping European Research Leaders for Marine Sustainability (SEAS) is a postdoctoral research fellowship programme for 37 fellows launched and managed by the University of Bergen. This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101034309.

In this first call, open August 1 - October 31 (2021), we invite talented experienced researchers to apply for 18 fellowships. Successful candidates will be employed in fixed-term fulltime postdoctoral research fellow positions at UiB.

The SEAS programme offers
- high-quality inter- and transdisciplinary research and training opportunities in the area of marine sustainability supported by a supervision and inter-sectoral mentoring scheme
- opportunity to transfer knowledge and skills between disciplines, organisations and sectors
- a regional ecosystem of marine actors
- structured skill-based training
- high-quality working conditions
- personal career support
- academic freedom
- equal opportunities

For more information see the SEAS webpage or send an email to seas@uib.no.

SEAS eligibility criteria and application requirements
Eligible applicants will be evaluated on transparent evaluation criteria by international experts. No restrictions by nationality, age, gender, ethnicity, disability/special needs, or social status will apply. To be considered eligible for academic review, applications must adhere to the following programme requirements:

- Applications must be submitted through the JobbNorge portal and include all mandatory elements (see below)
- Applicants must hold a PhD degree (or an equivalent degree) in a relevant field prior to the application deadline (if you have not yet received your PhD diploma, you must document that you have defended your thesis successfully).
- Applicants cannot previously have been employed as a postdoctoral fellow at UiB.
- The research proposal must be relevant to marine sustainability.
- Applicants must have a high degree of proficiency in English (self-assessed in the CV and demonstrated in the application).
- SEAS mobility rules (if the successful candidate is an outgoing fellow, there is a mandatory return period of 12-18 months at UiB).
- The application and relevant documents must be in English.
Evaluation
We anticipate the whole evaluation procedure to take approximately 4 months from application deadline. Eligible applicants will be evaluated by three international experts and assessed against criteria addressing excellence, impact, implementation, quality of the researcher and training, knowledge transfer, and networking opportunities. Details are stated in the Guide for applicants.

Employment conditions/offers for SEAS fellows
- Fixed-term 3-year contract as a postdoctoral research fellow at UiB.
- Salary at pay grade 61 (code 1352/pay range 24, alternative 5) according to the state salary scale upon appointment. This constitutes a gross annual salary of NOK 553 500 (approx. € 55,000 depending on exchange rate). Further promotions are made according to length of service.
- Welfare benefits* and social benefits including pension-saving, occupational injury insurance, full salary during sick leave for 52 weeks, and paid parental leave**.
- Extension of the position term (work contract) due to sick leave and parental leave.
- Norwegian language courses free of charge.
- High standards for working hours, holidays, place of work, health, and safety.
- Access to specific training activities exclusively provided within the framework of the SEAS programme.
- An individual research budget of minimum € 300 per month for 3 years is guaranteed, and an additional € 300 per month can be applied for, for activities such as secondment, travels, joint events, etc.
- Outgoing fellows will receive full coverage of travel costs for attending the mandatory gatherings (in compliance with UiB-routines for travel procurement and reimbursement).

*) Subject to membership in the Norwegian National Insurance Scheme. For non-EU outgoing fellows, individual benefit agreement must be considered.

**) Right to paid parental leave requires 6 months paid work before first day of leave. See full requirements.

About the position
The primary objective of the postdoctoral position is to qualify the appointee for work in top academic positions. Teaching and/or other qualifying duties might be included if the appointee lacks such experience. The UiB-contract may, under certain conditions, be extended by up to one year if a fellow acquires sufficient funding from other sources than SEAS.

For all SEAS fellows, a Personal Career Development Plan (PCDP) is to be developed jointly by the fellow, supervisor, and co-supervisor by the end of Month 2 of the fellowship, including a plan for the individual research budget, and information on additional funding where applicable.

If selected, you must be able to take up the position within four months after receiving the offer unless another concrete start date is approved by the SEAS-administration. Before applying we recommend you familiarise yourself with current visa and work permit regulations for Norway (incoming candidates) or other host country (for outgoing candidates). Employment (work permit) is subject to approval under national export control legislation.

How to apply
Before starting the online application process, please familiarise yourself carefully with our application requirements in the Guide for Applicants. It is essential that all required attachments (see next section) are uploaded via our electronic recruiting system JobbNorge. Before uploading any documents in the portal (to minimise repetition of information):

In the ‘JobbNorge-application field’: Only write your name.

In the ‘JobbNorge-CV form’: Only fill in your 1) personal details, 2) information about your PhD-degree (in the field ‘Academic qualifications’) and 3) recent relevant work experience.

You do not need to fill in any other sections in the JobbNorge form, as all the information we need will be provided by you when attaching the mandatory elements listed in the next section.

Elements to be attached when submitting
The following elements or documents are to be attached in separate files. For documents 1-7 you must download and use SEAS templates found in the Guide for applicants. Submit all attachments with your name in the file name (e.g., surname_name_att1).

1. Mobility declaration (including documentation of country of residence last 3 years, e.g., work contract, rental contract, tax slips).
2. Research proposal.
5. CV including list of publications.
6. For both incoming and outgoing fellowships: Match declaration signed by proposed UiB-supervisor.
7. Only for outgoing fellowships: Match declaration signed by outgoing host institution.
8. PhD diploma, or an official statement that verifies that you have defended your thesis successfully.
9. Any relevant publications.
10. Letters of recommendation from the graduating university or previous employers are encouraged but not mandatory.

If you apply for more than one of the SEAS postdoctoral research positions, you must send separate applications.

General information
Women, people with immigrant backgrounds and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply for the position. If multiple applicants have approximately equivalent qualifications, the rules pertaining to moderate gender quotas might apply.
UiB applies the principle of public access to information when recruiting staff. Information about applicants may be made public even if an applicant has requested not to be named on the list of applicants. If a request to be omitted is not met, the applicant will be notified.

About The University of Bergen (UiB)

The University of Bergen is a renowned educational and research institution, organised into seven faculties and approximately 54 institutes and academic centres.

The University of Bergen (UiB) is Norway’s largest marine university, with research and education of a high international standard and several world leading research environments.

Marine collaboration among the academic, business, government, and civil society (e.g., NGOs) sectors is particularly strong in the Bergen region, given the city’s long history as a maritime port and trading centre. UiB’s campus-area, Marineholmen, is a marine hotspot in Europe, with over 150 companies and organisations collaborating in seafood, energy, subsea technology, and other maritime activities. Many of these are partners of the SEAS programme.