Position Announcement

Science & Research Director - Year Round Salaried Exempt Position

The Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership is a transformative learning community on Hurricane Island in Penobscot Bay, Maine. Our mission is to integrate science education, applied research, and leadership development through year-round educational programs and a seasonal, environmentally-sustainable island community. We inspire individuals to become impassioned change leaders and informed citizens in confronting current and future environmental challenges. Our research agenda focuses on answering local high priority questions and increasing scientific capacity regionally. We pursue initiatives through the scientific process. The knowledge gained informs communities and empowers people to take action.

Position Description

The Science & Research Director will build on the Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership’s dynamic role as a critical research and education institution in Penobscot Bay and the Gulf of Maine. This position oversees Research operations and supervises a staff consisting of year-round scientists, seasonal research assistants and interns. This position will guide the continued development of Hurricane Island’s current research agenda focusing on aquaculture, wild fisheries, and the needs of the surrounding coastal communities, while cultivating new and expanded research opportunities including local and regional studies on climate driven changes to the ecosystem and the region's biological oceanography. The Director will build awareness for Hurricane Island’s resources throughout the broader scientific community that fosters higher education and research institution partnerships for programming and research on and off the island. This position will have the unique opportunity to chart the strategic course and vision for the newly constructed Hurricane Island Field Research Station, a sustainably-built, state of the art research facility equipped to conduct research from 12 miles offshore in the mouth of Penobscot Bay and the heart of the Gulf of Maine.

This position reports directly to the Executive Director and is based out of Rockland, Maine. While the position will not require residing on Hurricane Island, there is an in-season expectation for the Research Director to maintain a consistent presence on the island. This position is a full-time, year-round position complete with a competitive salary (DOE) and benefits package.

General Responsibilities

- Define the organization's research priorities including our own internal long-term monitoring programs and a strategy to build partnerships with other researchers and research institutions
- Build a visible research presence that includes publishing research work, attending conferences, public relations and project promotion
- Build relationships with institutions of higher education interested in conducting course work on Hurricane Island and in midcoast Maine
- Encourage and facilitate funded research around the island and in midcoast Maine
- Identify and apply for grants while working with our Advancement team to secure other funding sources
- Hire and manage a team of seasonal and year-round research staff
- Engage with Hurricane’s community of students, educators and researchers while working to fulfill our mission of integrating science education, research and leadership
- Serve on appropriate Board committees and work with Board members to expand our reach
- Set and oversee an annual budget in consultation with the Executive Director, the Lead Scientist and research staff
- Demonstrate a commitment to and build initiatives that support inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility to research and education for all including racial and ethnic minority groups, English language learners, urban youth, low-income communities, immigrant communities, LGBTQ communities, people with special needs, and other groups that are underrepresented in the scientific fields
Education and Training

- PhD or on a doctoral track in relevant marine sciences research field is preferred; MS with strong professional experience will be considered
- Demonstrated track record for publishing in peer-reviewed science journals
- Strong background in research project development and implementation
- Successful acquisition of grants and demonstrated experience in grant writing and management
- Experience relating to managing a remote field station
- Employee supervisory experience, including interviewing and hiring experience
- Dive certification and captain’s license (optimal but not required)

Required Application Materials

We are currently interviewing applicants for this position and are accepting applications through August 31, 2022. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Applications missing any of the required materials will not be considered.

- Cover letter explaining your interest in this position and your relevant experience.
- Résumé, including work or personal experience which may not seem to apply to this position. We would like a full picture of who you are and your experiences.
- Contact information for three professional references.

Application Submission: All application materials and questions should be sent to jobs@hurricaneisland.net.