

**BIOGRIP Soil and Water Node, Stellenbosch University**  
**2-year Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Available at the Department of Earth Sciences,**  
**Faculty of Science**

**Project Title: Post-Doctoral Fellowship in developing LA MC-ICP-MS applications.**

The BIOGRIP Node for Water and Soil Analysis at Stellenbosch University invites submissions for a Stellenbosch University funded Post-Doctoral Fellowship in laser ablation multi-collector ICP MS analytical methods. The node is equipped with a Thermo Scientific Neoma MC-ICP-MS and a Resolution 193nm Excimer laser ablation system.

The aims of the fellowship are to develop novel laser ablation-based applications that will be complimentary to existing research foci in environmental and petrological research at Stellenbosch University. These include using Cd, As, Cr and Ni isotopes in estuarine mollusk shells as a proxy for pesticide use in the catchment; to test the use of Sr and Nd isotopes in apatite in felsic rocks (thus high Rb systems) as a reliable proxy for bulk rock isotopic composition.

The value of the fellowship is R320 000 per year and will be granted for two years, with the opportunity for continuation, dependent on the availability of funds and performance.

**Requirements:**

1. A PhD in Earth Science obtained within the past 5 years.
2. Demonstrated experience in the development of standard materials and/or analytical methods using LA MC-ICP-MS.
3. An impressive record of publication in accredited journals that is proportionate to the time since PhD completion.

**Recommendations:**

Experience working with any of the isotope systems mentioned above. Experience with related analytical equipment such as SEM and other ICP-MS equipment.

**Commencement of duties:** 16 September or as soon as possible after this date

The fellowship will be hosted by Professor Gary Stevens in the Department of Earth Sciences at Stellenbosch University. All applications should be submitted electronically to Dr Janine Colling [jcolling@sun.ac.za](mailto:jcolling@sun.ac.za) by 6 September. Applications should consist of a CV, including contact details of 3 professional references and a cover letter motivating your suitability for the position.

*Please note that postdoctoral fellows are not appointed as employees and their fellowships are awarded tax-free. They are therefore not eligible for employee benefits.*