

From: David Inouye
Subject: Ph.D. position: polar invasion ecology.

Dear ITEX Colleagues,

A 4-yr PhD-position in Polar invasion ecology is available at the Department of Ecological Science, for the research project entitled 'Aliens in the polar regions', funded by the Netherlands Polar Program (NWO). Within this project we aim to unravel the impacts of alien plant, cryptogam and invertebrate establishment on the functioning of terrestrial Arctic and Antarctic ecosystems in a warmer climate. What are the consequences of alien invasions for the primary productivity, nutrient availability and carbon cycling in Arctic ecosystems? In particular the large carbon stocks of Arctic tundra are of interest as they have large feedbacks to the global carbon cycle and greenhouse gas induced climate warming. In addition, we aim to establish the role of native species that could facilitate, as 'invasion engineers', the establishment of alien species. The candidate will perform competition experiments between native Arctic and invasive species under controlled laboratory conditions as well as under field conditions in the Arctic region (northern Scandinavia and Svalbard). The project will contribute to improve the research and environmental management activities related to alien invasions within the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna. The project will be run in collaboration with prof. P. Convey from the British Antarctic Survey.

<https://www.vu.nl/en/employment/vacancies/2017/17283phdpostionpolarinvasioneecology.aspx>

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Universiteit Amsterdam

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For additional information please contact:

Dr. S.F. Bokhorst

Phone number +31 (0)20 5987078

E-mail: s.f.bokhorst@vu.nl