

**ANNOUNCEMENT:
2013 Special POGO Visiting Fellowship for
On-board Training on an Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) Cruise**

The Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (POGO) announces a special Fellowship for on-board training on an Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) Cruise. One berth has been reserved on the next AMT cruise (AMT-23) for the selected candidate. The programme is designed to promote training and capacity building leading towards a global observation scheme for the oceans.

Who can apply?

This fellowship program is open to scientists, technicians, graduate students (PhD or MSc) and Post-doctoral Fellows involved in oceanographic work at centres in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

What does the fellowship offer?

The selected candidate will have the opportunity to visit Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) in the UK, for one month prior to the start of the cruise to participate in cruise preparation and planning; to go on the cruise (17th October to 30th November 2013) and help make hydrological, bio-optical and ecological observations; and after the cruise to spend approximately one additional month at PML, learning to analyse the results statistically and interpret them. Core measurements are planned to include phytoplankton, zooplankton and bacterioplankton diversity, ¹⁴C primary production, nitrogen cycling, respiration, pCO₂, fast repetition rate fluorometry, optics, coloured dissolved organic matter (CDOM), pigments and micromolar nutrients.

Total period of Fellowship: 17th September to 21st December 2013. Candidates should be available to participate for the full period.

The AMT Programme

The Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) programme (www.amt-uk.org) began in 1995, utilising the passage of the RRS James Clark Ross through the Atlantic Ocean between the UK and the Falkland Islands (50°N to 52°S, a distance of over 13,500 km) southwards in September and northwards in April each year. The transect crosses a range of ecosystems from sub-polar to tropical, and from eutrophic shelf seas and upwelling systems to oligotrophic mid-ocean gyres. The scientific aims included an assessment of mesoscale to basin-scale phytoplankton processes, the functional interpretation of bio-optical signatures and the seasonal, regional and latitudinal variations in mesozooplankton dynamics. The programme provided a platform for international scientific collaboration, including the calibration and validation of SeaWiFS measurements and products. The measurements of hydrographic and bio-optical properties, plankton community structure and primary production completed on the first 12 transects (1995-2000) represent the most coherent set of repeated biogeochemical observations over ocean-basin scales. This unique dataset has led to several important discoveries concerning the identification of oceanic provinces, validation of ocean colour algorithms, documentation of distributions of picoplankton, identification of new regional sinks of pCO₂ and quantification of variability in rates of primary production and respiration.

In 2001, the programme restarted (2003-2005) and broadened, to address a suite of cross-disciplinary

research questions concerning ocean plankton ecology and biogeochemistry and their links to atmospheric processes. The objectives included the determination of 1) how the structure, functional properties and trophic status of the major planktonic ecosystems vary in space and time; 2) how physical processes control the rates of nutrient supply, including dissolved organic matter, to the planktonic ecosystem; and 3) how atmosphere-ocean exchange and photodegradation influence the formation and fate of organic matter. These topics were addressed by more than 45 scientists from 6 UK research institutes that participated in these cruises.

Between 1995 and 2012, the programme has included 22 research cruises, involving more than 220 scientists from 18 countries, contributing to 229 refereed publications and 75 PhD theses. This unique spatially extensive decadal dataset continues to be deposited and made available to the wider community through the British Oceanographic Data Centre (www.bodc.ac.uk).

AMT-23 will take place in October-November 2013 between the UK and Chile or Uruguay, as part of a long-term multi-disciplinary ocean observation programme, a platform for national and international scientific collaboration, a training arena for the next generation of oceanographers and an ideal facility for validation of novel technology.

What are the Priority Areas?

The Principal Investigators (PIs) on the 2013 AMT Cruise and their proposed areas of work are shown below. These are the priority areas for this special fellowship, and the selected POGO Fellow should have a scientific interest in one of these areas of work. The corresponding PI(s) will be the supervisor(s) of the Fellow during the training period.

Lead PI	Co-PIs	Research area
Dr. Andy Rees (apre@pml.ac.uk)	Dr. Darren Clark (drcl@pml.ac.uk)	Nitrogen cycling and nitrous oxide through the Atlantic Ocean.
Dr. Gavin Tilstone (ghti@pml.ac.uk)		Phytoplankton community composition and its relationship to size fractionated photosynthesis and primary production.
Dr. Glen Tarran (gat@pml.ac.uk)		Linking plankton community size structure and ecosystem function in contrasting ocean provinces of the Atlantic Ocean.
Dr. Giorgio Dall'Olmo (gdal@pml.ac.uk)	Dr. Gavin Tilstone (ghti@pml.ac.uk)	Spatial and vertical distribution of suspended solids and coloured dissolved organic matter during AMT23.

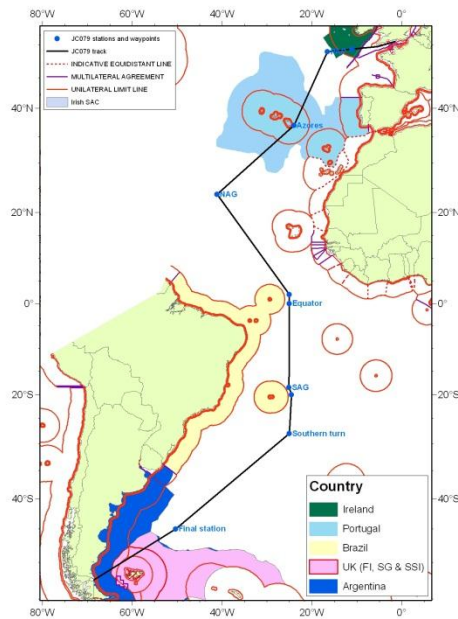


Fig. 1: Cruise track of AMT 22

What are the terms?

1. The fellowship will provide the costs of a round-trip ticket between the home institute of the trainee and Plymouth; subsistence allowance for up to two months' stay in the UK depending on the particulars of the proposed training (at a rate of 925 GBP per month, normally for one month before the cruise and one month after the cruise); the flight back from Chile or Uruguay; accommodation in Chile or Uruguay (on leaving ship); accommodation in UK (to join ship); ship messing fee; seafaring medical and sea survival course.
2. The trainee's institute will bear all expenses incurred by the fellow in his/her own nation (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute (PML) will waive any bench fees that they may normally charge trainees.
3. POGO does not cover any of the expenses related to the training itself (such as the cost of consumables or software).
4. POGO assumes no responsibility for compensation in the event of sickness, accident, death or disability of a Fellowship holder, nor does it arrange for insurance of a trainee or reimburse premiums paid therefore.
5. The trainees are not considered agents or members of the staff of POGO, and shall not be entitled to any privileges, immunities, compensation or reimbursements, except as otherwise provided herein, nor are the trainees authorised to commit POGO to any expenditure or other obligation.
6. The trainee and the supervisors at the parent and host institutes are required to provide a short progress report at the end of the training period, to evaluate the success of the fellowship programme.

Review Process

Representatives from POGO and AMT will review the applications. In their decision-making, the Selection Committee will consider the following points:

1. Quality of the application;
2. Curriculum of the applicant;
3. Evidence that the training will lead to capacity-building with potential lasting impact on regional observations.

How does one apply?

In the first instance, applicants should e-mail one of the PIs listed above with a **short CV and a statement of interest** outlining their current research and what they hope to gain from the training. They may also be encouraged to submit a project outline to the prospective supervisor. Although the areas of work are well defined, there may be some flexibility in the project definition, which can be negotiated by e-mail between the applicant and the supervisor prior to submitting the application. Based on the information submitted by the applicant, the PI will decide if their profile is suitable for the project, and if so will issue an acceptance letter.

Important note: the prospective supervisor should be contacted as soon as possible, and no later than Friday 26th April, to allow sufficient time for the supervisor to consider the application before the submission deadline.

Only when the acceptance letter has been obtained from the prospective host supervisor can the application be submitted. **Fellowship applicants should complete and submit electronically the application form (this can be downloaded from the POGO website at http://www.ocean-partners.org/attachments/308_POGO_AMT_Fellowship_Application_2013.doc), together with a recommendation letter from the parent supervisor and a letter of acceptance from the prospective host supervisor.** Only the parent supervisor recommendation letter needs to be submitted as a hard copy. If short-listed, the candidate might be asked to undergo an informal telephone interview to evaluate his/her level of English.

Applications and recommendation letters should be written in English and submitted in pdf format. It is recommended that descriptive sections be limited to about 100 - 150 words. Please use font sizes of 10 pt or larger. **Only applications that are complete in all respects will be considered for the Fellowship.**

Please send electronic versions of completed applications and attachments by e-mail to pogoadmin@pml.ac.uk. In addition, mail signed original parent supervisor recommendation letter to:

POGO Secretariat
Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Prospect Place, The Hoe
Plymouth
Devon PL1 3DH
United Kingdom

Deadline: The deadline for applications for the 2012 fellowship is **Friday 3rd May 2013**. **All applicants will be informed of the decision within two months of the deadline.**