

**Central Caribbean Marine Institute
Little Cayman Research Centre
Job Announcement**

TITLE: Research Associate (Coral Reef Resilience & Climate Change Specialist)

REPORTS TO: Assistant Director of Research

Application review will begin April 30th; however, the posting will remain open until the position is filled. Start date of June 1st, 2015 preferred.

SUMMARY:The Central Caribbean Marine Institute (www.reefresearch.org) seeks to build an exceptional team of talented scientists to lead a compelling research program broadly related to understanding factors that could improve coral reef resilience. We seek to hire a PhD level coral reef scientist who will explore innovative research into improving the sustainability of corals reefs. We anticipate that the Coral Reef Resilience Scientist will have the flexibility of investigating topics as they apply to population, community, ecosystem, genetics, and/or coastal or ocean dynamics, with cross-over applications to coral restoration ecology and ecosystem based management. Research should enhance our knowledge of stressors such as ocean acidification, marine diseases, and/or climate change. The candidate will be afforded the opportunity to establish a research project that uses the assets of the Little Cayman Research Centre including: the first coral nursery established in the Cayman Islands, a new NSF Funded Wet Lab built to enhance the capacity for coral reef stress and climate change research, and that could benefit from the NOAA Coral Reef Early Warning System data collection system. We seek an enthusiastic scientist who will expand our publication record and scope of research. The Coral Reef Resilience Scientist will establish a well-funded collaboration with resident scientists and new collaborators ideally under the theme of Coral Reef Resilience, Restoration, and Climate Change. The knowledge that is gained from the research should be easily transformable into action through our resident education and outreach programs.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Manage research projects including designing and implementing innovative field and lab experiments; Collect, analyze, archive, and report data for various audiences;
2. Manage our coral restoration project to include diverse coral species and potential manipulative experiments;
3. Participate in and lead the Long-Term Assessment and Monitoring Program (LAMP) completing annual reports on coral reef health;
4. Manage and monitor the NOAA- CCMI Coral Reef Early Warning System (CREWS) project assuring data integrity, instrument maintenance, and growing communications and collaborations across the region
5. Lead coral bleaching and disease surveillance surveys as needed
6. Complete quarterly community outreach and annual training workshops related to coral reef conservation;
7. Assist with completing successful grant proposals; manage and maintain project budgets, grant deliverables, and reporting;
8. Publishing as lead author on 1 paper and supporting author on 2 additional papers annually in high-level peer reviewed journals;
9. Support our NSF-Funded Research Experience for Undergraduates and our Citizen Science programs including (Earthwatch and Dive on the EDGE);

10. Assure links between research objectives and CCMI's key strategic goals
11. Support other research institute activities including:
 - Communicating research through various media, press releases, website updates, newsletters sponsor reports, white papers, social media content, and lectures
 - Assist other research team members during field work
 - Assist in building an international reputation for the institute establishing new collaborations
 - Be engaged in the day to day maintenance, admin and upkeep duties of the research station

Skills and Qualities Required

- PhD degree in coral reef science related field with successful publications and excellent biostatistics skills
- Capacity and experience in maintaining oceanographic instrumentation
- Successful grant writing experience a plus
- Capacity to manage project budgets, timelines, and outcomes
- Strong scientific diving skills
- Strong work ethic, self-motivated, enthusiastic team player
- Excellent organizational and interpersonal skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to adapt to a frequently-changing schedule

This position works full-time out of the Little Cayman Research Centre. Little Cayman is a remote tropical island with less than 200 people and is the smallest of the three Cayman Islands. Marine protection has been in place since the mid-1980's making this an ideal location for coral reef research. However, family support is limited and work permits are required for all employees. This position requires an individual who is capable of working under strenuous conditions and who is well-adapted to living in a small community.

Benefits: CCMI has a generous benefits package that includes health insurance, a pension plan after 9 months of employment, vacation and holidays. Modest international travel allowance to the field; monthly salary commensurate with experience. Position will be filled in accordance with Cayman Islands law.

Contact: carmiapplications@reefresearch.org

Application: Submit a cover letter, CV (with a list of 3 references), and 3 recent publications via email. Application review will begin on April 30th and will continue until the position is filled. Preferred starting date is June 1st.

Employment Offer shall be contingent upon:

- Full medical clearance
- Police clearance
- Clean and valid driving license
- Proof of DAN Preferred diving insurance or equivalent
- References check
- Approval of a Work Permit Grant issued by the Cayman Islands Immigration Department

CCMI is an equal opportunity employer