

MPhil – Seafood for societal health. Mark Quested Legacy “Fishmongers’ 750” Scholarship



Applications are invited for a fully-funded MPhil on seafood for societal health in the Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge.

Background:

Our population faces a food crisis. Billions of people are overconsuming energy-rich nutrient-poor foods, driving physical and mental health problems from obesity to depression, with heavy economic and social implications. In parallel, intensive production of terrestrial crops and livestock is a primary cause of rising greenhouse gas emissions and accelerating biodiversity loss. Seafood (fish and shellfish) can provide our population with an incredibly rich source of nutrition, being rich in omega-3 and key micronutrients such as vitamins B12, A, and D, iodine, iron and calcium. Production of seafood from wild-capture fisheries and aquaculture can also drive significant environmental problems, but research has identified ways for seafood production to become a sustainable activity for the long-term.

Project:

This project aims to find new approaches to drive greater consumption of sustainable seafood for societal health. The student will be encouraged to identify a research focus they are passionate about. Topics could range from methods to make sustainable nutritious seafood more attractive to people, to ways to make seafood more accessible to those in greatest need, to the role of seafood in young peoples' mental health.

Research Environment:

For their research the student will be based in the David Attenborough Building which houses the Cambridge Conservation Initiative, bringing together the biggest NGOs in biodiversity conservation with the University of Cambridge. The student will be resident at Murray Edwards College, a College for women from a variety of backgrounds who strive to achieve their full potential and make a difference in the world. The student will be supervised by Dr David Willer, who will provide tailored support on the project and access to a network of major industrial and political stakeholders to facilitate maximum research impact.

Value to the Student:

The student will be in receipt a Mark Quested Legacy “Fishmongers’ 750” Scholarship, provided by the Fishmongers’ Company in celebration of their 750th anniversary. The student will receive funding to fully cover University fees (£9,111) alongside a maintenance stipend of £16,062. The student will be invited to a range of complimentary conferences, dinners, and other events by the Fishmongers’ Company. There will be an opportunity for the student to apply for a small amount of additional funding from the Fishmongers’ Company to support research activities.

Eligibility:

Applicants should have (or expect to obtain by the start date) at least a good 2:1 undergraduate degree in the natural sciences or a related area such as geography or psychology.
Applicants should identify as female (College requirement).
Applicants should be UK students.

Enquiries:

Please contact Dr David Willer: dw460@cam.ac.uk

How to apply:

Please note that the application is for a studentship only, and it does not include an offer of admission to the University. The successful applicant would be expected to formally apply for admission and subsequently meet any conditions of admission set forth. Please see our course's minimum admissions criteria before applying for this studentship to see if you would qualify for admission.

To be considered for the studentship, please email the following to Marcus Pitcaithly at graduate@zoo.cam.ac.uk by Friday 9th September. We are unable to consider incomplete or late applications.

- 1.) Please ensure that you meet our minimum admissions criteria before applying for this studentship. If your degree(s) was completed outside the UK, please also check the International Qualifications to ensure your final mark is equivalent to a High 2.i or a First.
- 2.) Please ensure you put the Vacancy reference number (NQ32336) in the subject line of your email.
- 3.) Copies of your transcripts for your Bachelor's degree, Master's (if applicable), and/or any other completed degrees.
- 4.) Your CV
- 5.) The name, including title (eg Prof, Dr, Ms, etc.) and email addresses of two referees who would be able to comment on your suitability for the post. Please visit the Referees section of the Admissions website to see who can serve as a referee.

Please quote reference PF32475 on your application and in any correspondence about this vacancy.

The University actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society.

The University has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.

Course details:

MPhil in Biological Sciences (Zoology)

Start Date: **5th January, 2023** (Lent Term 2023)

Supervisor: Dr David Willer / Prof David Aldridge