

MARINE TECHNICIANS

Req #: 66299

Department: SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Job Location: Seattle Campus

Posting Date: 07/26/2010

Closing Info: Open Until Filled

Salary: Salary and benefits are competitive. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Notes

This recruitment pool may be used to fill up to 5 positions.

The University of Washington (UW) is proud to be one of the nation's premier educational and research institutions. Our people are the most important asset in our pursuit of achieving excellence in education, research, and community service. Our staff not only enjoy outstanding benefits and professional growth opportunities, but also an environment noted for diversity, community involvement, intellectual excitement, artistic pursuits, and natural beauty.

The School of Oceanography fosters continued advancement of the ocean sciences, solutions to problems of societal relevance, and public awareness of the marine environment. It is at the forefront of creating knowledge and understanding about the ocean through observation, theory, modeling and technological innovation. The School focuses on learning and discovery, equipping students with knowledge and insights, scholarly methods, scientific tools and communication skills.

The School of Oceanography at the University of Washington operates two federally owned research vessels, the R/V Thomas G. Thompson and R/V Clifford A. Barnes. The Shipboard Science Support Group (SSSG) provides logistics support within our overall marine operations efforts to enable research and academic users of our research vessels and shore-based facilities to successfully and safely carry out their planned missions and

objectives. Individuals in this group will work cooperatively with ship operators, ship users, co-workers, and vendors to maintain a high level of services and specialized scientific and technical assistance to the oceanographic community both on shore and at sea.

The University of Washington currently seeks **qualified, motivated individuals with a range of experience levels to build a balanced team of 5 Marine Technicians with the technical and scientific skills necessary to support our scientific and educational cruises.** The people hired will be expected to work at sea for intervals during each year. They will also work on shore to provide logistics support for the planned cruises and to develop particular areas of specialized knowledge that contribute to keeping the overall SSSG workgroup up-to-date in relevant technological advances and trends in oceanographic research.

Basic Job Duties:

All Marine Technicians within the SSSG group will be expected to perform the following tasks. While at sea, stand regular watches (typically 12 hours per day), perform duties of scientific data collection and archiving, assist with the deployment and recovery of scientific equipment as required to meet the objectives of each cruise. Assist the Master of the Vessel with compliance to ship, deck, and lab safety procedures and with proper storage and use of scientific hazardous materials and radioisotope materials brought onboard by vessel users. Operate, monitor, and maintain scientific instruments (e.g., Knudsen sub-bottom profiler, Seabird CTD, Simrad EM 300 swath bathymetry, Applanix POS/MV, meteorological sensors, and vessel-mounted RDI Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler), shipboard navigation and communication systems, GPS receivers, gyros and speed logs. Provide summary reports at the end of each cruise of successes and deficiencies in meeting cruise objectives and the status of on board equipment and instruments.

While on shore, provide logistical support to SSSG, including order and ship equipment or repair parts and supplies to ports of call; provide technical support to shipboard personnel via email or phone consultations; inform SSSG Manager of equipment status and assist in ongoing efforts to schedule and document required repairs, upgrades and associated tasks. Provide ideas to improve efficiency and function of SSSG. Interact with ship users and operators to determine best procedures to accomplish planned work safely; identify and schedule the acquisition of specialized equipment to support cruise objectives; maintain common oceanographic instrumentation and equipment in safe working condition. Work collaboratively with other marine operations personnel to plan, schedule, and accomplish individual cruise mobilization and demobilization tasks during vessel in port periods

(both in Seattle and other ports). Participate in vendor and in UNOLS (University National Oceanographic Laboratory System) or NSF-sponsored training opportunities to achieve standards of performance expected fleetwide. As schedule permits, attend annual meetings of the Research Vessel Technical Enhancement Committee (RVTEC) to exchange ideas with personnel from other institutions to identify best practices and to resolve common problems with instrumentation and procedures.

Specialized Skills:

In addition to the basic duties required of all Marine Technicians within the SSSG group, members are expected to develop individual expertise in emerging areas of oceanographic research to be able to contribute ideas, develop procedures for carrying out shipboard research, interpret data quality, and collaborate on presenting research results. They are encouraged to identify and pursue necessary training opportunities to increase knowledge and skills in ways that benefit SSSG activities and goals and that contribute to the academic and research missions of the School of Oceanography.

The School of Oceanography plans to build a team that includes individuals who have or will develop the following specialized skills:

Computer Network Administration. Manage shipboard computer Linux-based data servers and networked computers running Linux, Solaris, XP, OSX, and DOS operating systems. Ensure that this system is optimally configured and maintained for the science mission, including preserving the integrity of cruise data and shipboard communications systems. Develop simplified procedures to provide redundancy of functions for system components, document the procedures, and provide training and direction within SSSG to elucidate network architecture, functionality and procedures.

Data Acquisition Systems. Participate, in consultation with other members of SSSG team, vessel users, vendors in maintenance/upgrades of software and hardware that interface the suite of mechanical, electronic, and computer-controlled instruments into the shipboard data collection, routing, and archiving systems.

Sampling and Measurement Systems. Participate, in consultation with other members of SSSG team, vessel users and vendors in the maintenance of mechanical and electronic components of sampling and measurement devices. Develop expertise in the use of acoustical systems for ship-based observations.

Data Archiving. Participate in UNOLS fleet wide R2R (rolling deck to repository) data archiving initiative and related efforts; implement best practices and standard procedures on our vessels; develop and maintain software to archive raw, derived, and meta data and to process, edit, and plot data for quality control and scientific inspection at sea.

Budget Management. Assist in preparation of annual operating budgets and proposals to support SSSG services. Monitor budgets to assure cost effectiveness of proposed projects, to enable proper scheduling of purchases, repairs and upgrades, and to prepare timely projections of budget and task status.

Education. Interact with faculty, students and research scientists to train and mentor them in standard and novel approaches to shipboard oceanographic data collection and interpretation; become a resource within the School of Oceanography who contribute in local NSF-required broader impacts efforts to explain the significance of the research conducted on our vessels.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in a science or engineering discipline or equivalent education and related work experience*, including operation or maintenance of standard shipboard instruments;
- Excellent written and verbal skills;
- Ability to work under and meet short deadlines;
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively at sea.

*Related work experience may range from 1 to 5 years depending on the applicability of the experience and applicant's education.

Equivalent education/experience will substitute for all minimum qualifications except when there are legal requirements, such as a license/certification/registration.

Desired:

- Demonstrated experience and proficiency with computer systems and data acquisition from shipboard instruments.
- Understanding and fluency in discussing research approaches with

principal investigators and senior level support staff is also highly desired

Condition of Employment:

- Must possess or obtain a valid passport and valid driver's license;
- Must pass a post-offer and periodic U.S. Coast Guard physical exam and agility test for duty in isolated locations.
- Employees will also be subject to periodic tuberculosis PPD tests.
- Employees will be required to participate in research cruises at sea for extended periods of time.

A satisfactory outcome from a criminal background verification may be required prior to hire.

As a UW employee, you will enjoy generous benefits and work/life programs. For a complete description of our benefits for this position, please visit our website, [click here](#).

Application Process:

This position is posted under Req# 66299 on the University of Washington's employment web site (<http://www.washington.edu/jobs>). **All applications must be submitted through this site.**

Part of the application process for this position includes completing an **online cover letter assessment** as well as the Employment Eligibility Assessment to obtain additional information that will be used in the evaluation process. The assessment(s) will appear on your screen for you to complete as soon as you select "Apply to this Position" on this job announcement. Once you begin the assessment, it must be completed at that time. If you select to take it later, it will appear on your "My Jobs" page to take when you are ready. **Please note that your application will not be reviewed, and you will not be considered for this position until the assessment is complete.**

[The University of Washington is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.](#) To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact the Disability Services Office at 206.543.6450 / 206.543.6452 (tty) or dso@u.washington.edu.