Faculty positions in Arctic Geophysics at the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS)

Full/ Associate Professor in Middle Atmospheric Physics

General
The department of Geophysics is now seeking candidates for the position of Professor / Associate Professor in Middle Atmospheric Physics. Currently the department constitute 2 professors, 4 associate professors, 2 post-doctoral research fellows, 3 PhD students, and 7 Adjunct Professors (20% position).

About UNIS
UNIS is a state-owned limited company with four of Norway’s universities represented on the board. UNIS is located in a modern working environment in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, and is well equipped with both technical and scientific equipment and laboratories. The institution has an infrastructure for both marine and terrestrial field research on Svalbard. The studies at UNIS are marketed internationally and all classes are offered in English.

Description of the vacant position
The vacant position will be part of the Space Physics Group within the Department of Geophysics at UNIS. The Space Physics Group recently became part of a Centre of Excellence – the Birkeland Centre for Space Science and the group’s ambition is now to strengthen its competence in middle atmospheric physics.

The Space Physics Group owns and operates several research facilities in the vicinity of Longyearbyen. These include the Kjell Henriksen Observatory (http://kho.unis.no) and the SPEAR heating facility (http://spear.unis.no). The group is also now in the process of building a new SuperDARN radar on Svalbard (for general info on SuperDARN, please see http://superdarn.jhuapl.edu/). The successful candidate will have the opportunity to capitalize and potentially expand these unique resources.

Further the candidate is expected to be a part of the Birkeland Centre of Space Science and to take an active part in the appropriate research topics connected to the position. This includes – but is not limited to – research into the effects of energetic particle precipitation on the atmospheric system, i.e. the influence of the flux of energetic ions and electrons into the middle atmosphere. The group is also doing research into the effect of gravity waves in the mesospheric region, and knowledge in this topic will be considered an advantage.

The candidate is expected to participate in the supervision of master- and PhD students in cooperation with the other universities. UNIS stresses the importance of field- and research based studies throughout our teaching programs at all levels, and the candidate will be responsible for one or two undergraduate or post graduate courses. For further description see: http://www.unis.no/studies.
Qualifications
Applicants for the position must be able to document their qualifications as Full or Associate Professor. To be considered for the position of Associate Professor a Ph.D. in an appropriate field, or its equivalent, is the minimum requirement. Professor qualifications must be documented as UNIS does not evaluate applicants for professorships. Applicants are requested to document their pedagogic qualifications and experience. Administrative experience will also be evaluated. Furthermore, experience from Svalbard and / or other polar areas will be an advantage.

The evaluation committee will especially consider the following:
- Documented research and professional work at a high international level in the field.
- Documented competence in relevant educational theory and experience of teaching and supervision.

The candidate is also requested to document qualifications within one or more of the following areas:
- Management of research and development projects.
- Experience from field work/instrumentation.

It is important that the person who is appointed has the ability to work independently, has a positive attitude and is flexible. A well-established international network is desirable in order to strengthen the internationalization of the teaching offered at UNIS

Employment conditions for faculty positions at UNIS
The vacant position is fulltime, permanent within the Geophysics department.

Sixty per cent of the working time of full-time faculty at UNIS is reserved for research and professional development. In addition, staff is required to be involved in teaching, administration and the social community.

Approximately 30 ECTS are linked to each full-time position at UNIS. Full-time staff have both the professional and the administrative responsibility for a subject or subjects equivalent to 15 ECTS (primary subject). In addition they have a coordinating, administrative responsibility for a further 15 ECTS (secondary subject). External guest-lectures augment the teaching in most courses offerings to ensure complete and high-level instruction within each field of study.

All scientific staff is responsible for planning the content of their primary subject and must make all necessary arrangements with external guest lecturers, as well as preparing for, and coordinating, the stays of guest-lecturers coming to Svalbard.

All faculty members are responsible for budget compliance and financial follow-up for their primary subject and for providing continuity of contact with the students in their primary course. They must also provide assistance in handling these tasks in secondary courses assigned to them.

The successful candidate is expected to take an active part in the advancement of his/ her field of research and must also be willing to contribute to the development of UNIS in a more general sense.
UNIS offers
- Free arrival passage for you and your family, and relocation expenses associated with initiation of the engagement.
- Annual refund of expenses for trip related to vacation for you and your family.
- Membership in the Norwegian Public Pension Fund which is offers one of the best arrangements for retirement pension.
- Favorable conditions for sabbatical leave

Salary
All salaries are set in accordance with the Norwegian government’s University salary scale. Full Professors are normally offered a gross salary within the scale of 68 – 75 (NOK 578,500 – 662,100) in the University salary scale. Associate Professors are normally offered a gross salary within the scale of 57 – 66 (NOK 473,100 – 558,300) in the University salary scale. The salaries are depending on experience/seniority. As resident of Svalbard, an annual allowance of NOK 29,600 (Svalbardtillegg) will be added to staff salaries. A social Security contribution of 2 per cent, to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund, will be deducted from the salary. Income tax on Svalbard is 8 per cent, plus 7.8 per cent toward National Insurance coverage.

Selection and appointment
An expert committee will evaluate the qualifications of the applicants. Based on the report, an interview committee will invite the top ranked person(s) for a trial lecture and an interview.
The appointment will be made by the Board of UNIS, based on the recommendation from the committees and an appointment committee. As UNIS would like to increase the percentage of females in academic positions, women are especially invited to apply.

Application
Inquiries about this position may be directed to:
Prof. Dag A. Lorentzen, phone: +47 79023336, email: dag.lorentzen@unis.no
Prof. Fred Sigernes, phone: +47 79023335, email: fred.sigernes@unis.no

Deadline for applications is 15th November 2013

Please apply online on www.unis.no – vacant positions

In the end of the form, please attach:
- a full list of publications & previously held grants
- education, pedagogic or teaching certificates (including a list of previously supervised graduate and PhD students, where applicable)
- 5 publications (authored or co-authored by the candidate) that he/she wants to have evaluated for consideration for appointment to this position
The committee may ask for further documentation of the scientific work described by the applicants.

You can request to have your application kept from public access cf. the open files act § 25. The request must be explained. UNIS will determine if the application will be kept from public access or not, based on the explanation and the regulations from the open files act. If the application will not be accepted, the candidate will be contacted.