

FI-DGR 2013 PhD Position in Archaeological Chemistry, Prehistory

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

IPHES (www.iphes.cat) and ICIQ (www.iciq.es) are looking for a **PhD candidate** to apply for an AGAUR Predoctoral Grant of the Generalitat de Catalunya (FI-DGR 2013).

The candidate will receive Doctoral Training in the study of chemical fingerprints of Mousterian hearth sediments and their byproducts. The purpose of the work is the chemical identification of organic compounds present in the sediments, in order to characterize hearth types according to their function and to gather information on the use of fire at the Abric Romaní Middle Palaeolithic archaeological site (Barcelona, Spain) by Neanderthal groups. Abric Romaní is a special site, led by Prof. Eudald Carbonell, where nearly 200 beautifully preserved hearths have been found in a rapid sediment accumulation. It has led to “near- Pompeii-like” preservation of hearths, stone tools, and other artifacts, which allows for an exemplar and unusual high-resolution research within an organic chemistry approach into the life of Neanderthal communities.

This multidisciplinary study will be performed on the world's unique ensemble of “hearth-type” samples (n= >100) of burned sediments from hearths from this Middle Palaeolithic site provided by IPHES, and using the state-of-the-art analytical facilities (basically HPLC and GC/MS Spectrometer techniques) of ICIQ. The student will be jointly supervised by senior scientists of IPHES (archaeological aspects) and ICIQ (chemical aspects).

Researchers interested in applying should send their CV and a COVERING LETTER including their motivations before 12th September to ipasto@iphes.cat indicating in the subject: **FI-DGR 2013 + “your name”**.

Nr. Grant Position: 1. Full-time temporary contract during three-years under the general conditions of AGAUR FI-DGR 2013 Programme (See link AGAUR below).

IPHES and ICIQ are institutions located at the Scientific Campus of Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Tarragona, Spain www.ceics.eu). Both institutes are very close (200 m) and count with all the technical and scientific facilities required to develop the proposed research.

RESEARCH FIELDS: Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Archaeological Chemistry, Prehistory.

CAREER STAGE: Early Stage Researcher or 0-4 years (Post Graduate)

RESEARCH PROFILE: First Stage Researcher (R1)

REQUIREMENTS:

All the Requirements of the AGAUR Regulatory Framework (ECO/1551/2012, July 26) (See link AGAUR below).

Degree in Chemistry with demonstrable skills in Analytical Chemistry and/or Organic Chemistry.

Basic experience in Chromatography (GC and HPLC) and Mass Spectrometry.

Experience in archaeological fieldwork is desirable, but not essential.

Good academic records (>2 for the 1-4 Spanish Rank System): See link AGAUR below.

Language: Good level of English required.

For more information, visit:

http://www10.gencat.cat/agaur_web/AppJava/english/a_beca.jsp?categoria=predotorals&id_beca=19161