MSc Scholarship in Environmental Remote Sensing

The Department of Oceanography at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and the South African National Space Agency (SANSA) is seeking a Masters candidate to pursue research on a Water Research Commission (WRC) project entitled “The integration of Earth Observation into the National Eutrophication Monitoring Programme” (EONEMP). EONEMP is a groundbreaking collaborative research project involving UCT, SANSA, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWAS). The candidate will be expected to conduct independent research under the supervision of UCT, CSIR and SANSA scientists. The research will involve analysis of remotely sensed and in situ datasets with emphasis on time series analysis and change detection for eutrophication and cyanobacteria blooms in South African inland waters (dams). The candidate will have the opportunity to develop their research interests in the areas of earth observation remote sensing, bio-optical limnology and environmental change using available datasets.

Eligibility criteria:
Applications from suitable qualified students with an Honours degree in science or engineering, excellent academic performance and backgrounds in environmental, ocean and atmosphere, remote sensing, and/or computer sciences are invited. Strong numerical skills and experience in a numerical computer programming language (python and/or Matlab) will be an advantage. The successful candidate:

- will be required to comply with the University’s approved policies, procedures and practices for the postgraduate sector, and
- may not hold the scholarship and salaried/full-time employment concurrently.

Funding:
The MSc candidate will be funded by the WRC and SANSA. The value of the scholarship is R85,000 per annum (with possible top-up), renewable for one year on condition of satisfactory academic performance.

How to apply:
To apply please forward a brief CV, certified academic transcripts, and a letter of motivation to Claire.Khai@uct.ac.za.

The closing date for applications is: 15 January 2014

The successful candidate will be expected to register as a full time student at UCT before the end of April 2014.

Only the successful candidate will be contacted.

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications, and reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all.