The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

SUPERDARN RESEARCHER AND DATA ANALYST (PHYSICS) THREE-YEAR CONTRACT SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS WESTVILLE CAMPUS

REF NO: CP02/2022

The School offers a vibrant educational and research environment in Chemistry and Physics. It maintains a strong collaboration with the South African National Space Agency (SANSA). For SANSA we analyse, process and distribute measurement data from the High Frequency radar at SANAE, Antarctica, within the SuperDARN network. In this context, the School seeks to appoint a suitably qualified candidate as temporary staff with expertise in Space Physics and Data Analysis.

The incumbent will be expected to conduct independent research in Space Physics based on the analysis of SuperDARN data and supervise such research of post-graduate students. Moreover, an essential part of the duties of the incumbent comprises guarding the quality, processing and distribution of the daily sent SANAE HF radar data, as well as maintaining the hardware and software needed for this. In particular the duties include:

- Perform daily data quality checks and advise users on data use.
- Participate in international SuperDARN working groups virtually, sometimes outside normal working hours.
- Engage in science outreach.

The incumbent will also be expected to represent SANSA, and Space Physics on campus, and promote a productive collaborative relationship between UKZN Physics and SANSA. This may include providing lecture courses to undergraduate and postgraduate students in Space Physics related subjects within the expertise of the incumbent.

Minimum Requirements:

- A PhD in Space Physics
- A sustained record of publications and international presentations based on analysis and manipulation of SuperDARN data
- Successful supervision of postgraduate research students (MSc and/or PhD) in Space Physics
- A minimum of five years work experience at a SuperDARN facility and the ability to work with the SuperDARN radar software and archive on Linux platforms.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to provide suitable references.

Enquiries and details regarding this post may be directed to the Academic Leader: Physics, Durban Centre, Professor Thomas Konrad, e-mail: Konradt@ukzn.ac.za

The closing date for receipt of applications is 09 March 2021

Applicants are required to complete the relevant application form which is available on the Vacancies website at www.ukzn.ac.za. Completed forms may be sent to Recruitment-aes@ukzn.ac.za

Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the subject line.