



UNIS provides education and carries out scientific research based in Svalbard within the high Arctic, and benefits greatly from this geographical location. Approximately half of the staff and students are from abroad, and all teaching is in English. UNIS is located in a new building in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, with very good access to modern laboratories and equipment and among others modern computer facilities with work stations. UNIS is a state-owned limited company.

PhD position in Arctic Geology at the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) in sedimentology and reservoir studies.

PhD: Sedimentology and reservoir studies of outcropping paralic clastic wedges in the Central Basin of Svalbard compared with subsurface analogues. Linked to the Research Centre for Arctic Petroleum Exploration (ARCEX).

The Department of Arctic Geology of the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) has a vacancy for a PhD position for three years. The PhD position is associated with the Research Centre for Arctic Petroleum Exploration (ARCEX). UiB / UiO / UNIS / NTNU / Norut/ UiT are scientific partners in ARCEX, which aims at improved knowledge of petroleum resources in northern and Arctic areas. ARCEX aspire to provide essential knowledge and methodology for eco-safe exploration in the high north. The Research Centre for Arctic Petroleum Exploration is led by UiT, the Arctic University of Norway, funded by the Research Council of Norway, and its strength is also represented by the significant cooperation amongst the 10 academic and 8 industry partners. More information is found on <http://www.arcex.no/>.

The Department for Arctic Geology (UNIS) presently consists of 4 professors, 3 associate professors, 11 adjunct professors, 4 Post Doc and 10 PhD students. Additional information about the Arctic Geology department can be found at www.unis.no.

Description of the vacant position

We are seeking a creative and highly motivated person to fill this PhD position. The ARCEX Research Program is subdivided into 5 work packages (WP). The PhD position at UNIS is linked to work package two (WP 2); *Petroleum systems and play concepts in the Arctic*. The research will address the task T.S 2.3; reservoir studies, onshore-offshore stratigraphy and tectonic links with close relationship to reservoir studies.

This task includes the study of thicknesses, lateral continuity, and vertical stacking patterns of reservoir units, by analyzing their architecture and scale in time and space. Targeted datasets will be Barents Sea seismic and well data including core and wireline logs and analogue exposures of sandstone bodies (e.g. Reservoir bodies). Hereunder, one purpose will be to combine quantitative outcrop studies to better predict expected reservoir quality in both frontier areas and for new exploration targets.

More specifically the PhD candidate will focus on delta front/shoreline deposits and use outcrops on Svalbard as playground for better description and interpretation of the analogues in the subsurface of the Barents Sea

Some of the Paleogene shallow marine and coastal plain wedges in the Central Basin of Svalbard are well exposed, but still poorly understood. These wedges represent early depositional responses to the uplift of the West-Spitsbergen fold-and-thrust belt. They consist of stacked deltaic lobes that prograded from west to east across the initial foreland basin. The wedges represent important analogues to subsurface deltaic and coastal depositional units at the Barents Shelf, including shallow shelf deltas in the Triassic Kobbe and Snadd formations and in the Upper Triassic to middle Jurassic - Realgrunnen Subgroup. The PhD project aims to acquire improved knowledge of these wedges and their subsurface analogue counterparts.

Required knowledge and skills

For the position, the applicant should: (i) have strong problem-solving and communication skills, including excellent English, (ii) demonstrate analytical skills (iii) be willing to travel and spend periods in the field and at other institutions, (iv) have physical fitness for fieldwork and (iv) hold a valid driving license .

For the PhD position applicants should have a master degree or equivalent in some of the topics such as sedimentary basin studies, sedimentology, sequence stratigraphy or seismic interpretation. Experience with outcrop studies and field camps are a prerequisite and experience with use of geological work stations are an advantage.

Employment Conditions for the PhD position

The employment contract is for 3 years.

The successful candidate must live in Longyearbyen. He/she is expected to contribute actively to ongoing scientific activities in the department. It is also expected that the PhD candidate takes an active part in the advancement of his/her field of research, and he/she must also be willing to contribute to the development of UNIS in a more general sense.

All salaries are set in accordance with the Norwegian government's University salary scale. PhD candidates are paid in salary steps 50, which is a gross salary of NOK 429 400.-. As a resident in Svalbard an annual allowance of NOK 32 000.- (Svalbardtillegg) will be added to the salary. 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 8,2 per cent toward National Insurance coverage.

Selection and appointment

An expert committee appointed by the Managing director of UNIS will evaluate the qualifications of the applicants. The Committee will review the applications in detail and summarize their assessments in a written report. This report and the derived recommendations form the basis for interviews, which will be summarized by the expert committee. They report to the Appointment Committee and Director of UNIS, which makes the final appointment.

Application and further information

A more complete description of the project and other inquiries about this position may be directed to Snorre Olaussen, e-mail: snorre.olaussen@unis.no, or William Helland-Hansen, e-mail william.helland-hansen@geo.uib.no or Maria Jensen, e-mail Maria.Jensen@unis.no

Applicant should submit a signed application backed by documentation such as an extensive CV, scanned copies of diplomas and transcripts, driving license, publications and other relevant work, as well as 2-3 references.

Deadline for applications is 1 April 2015

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

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.

