

**NOTICE N.º 013/2022**

**OPEN CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION WITHIN THE TERMS LAID DOWN OF THE REGULATIONS FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE**

**TITLE:** A Post-Doctoral Research Grant

It is now open a call for a Post-Doctoral Research Grant within the project Domestication of the Opium poppy in Prehistoric Europe (DOPE), PTDC/HAR-ARQ/1709/2021, funded by the Algarve Regional Operational Programme (CRESC Algarve 2020), through Portugal 2020 and the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER), with the following conditions:

**Research Field:** Biological Sciences.

**Admission Requirements:** In addition to the requirements mentioned in the new Regulation for Research Grants of the University of Algarve, namely article 6 (<https://dre.pt/application/file/a/152015732>), requirements for selection include:

- a) Having obtained a PhD (or concluding one before the beginning of the grant) in Biological Sciences, preferably in the field of Botany, Plant Physiology or Plant Molecular Biology;
- b) Having bench experience in analysing plant gene expression (ideally using RNA-seq), as well as in RNA extraction and quantification;
- c) Having experience in bioinformatic analysis of next-generation sequencing data;
- d) Proficiency in English, speaking and writing (preferable);
- e) Previous work in population genetics (preferable);
- f) Having programming skills in R or Python (preferable).

Candidates must be enrolled in a degree-granting study cycle or in a post-graduate course that does not confer an academic degree, taught at the University of Algarve, except in cases where there is no training offer at UAlg in the area of the competition.

**Work Plan:** The grantee will be responsible for 1) germinating seeds of cultivated and wild species of opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum* L.); 2) carry out DNA extraction for genotype-by-sequencing; 3) plan and run an RNA-seq experiment on three tissues (leaf, capsule and stem) in six cultivated and wild varieties of poppy; 4) analyse GBS and RNA-seq data using specific R and Python software or packages (TASSEL, Stacks, Structure, Adegnet, Mr. Bayes, Bowtie, BWA, Cufflinks, Galaxy, or others deemed appropriate); 5) deposit sequences and gene expression experiments to appropriate curated databases; 6) Possibly, to conduct DNA extraction from historical herbarium samples.

**Applicable Legislation and regulations:** Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by the Law nº 40/2004, from 18 of August, conferred by the Decree Law 123/2019, from July 28<sup>th</sup> and University Of Algarve's Research Grants Regulation

**Working place:** The work will be carried out at the University of the Algarve, Campus of Gambelas, in Faro, and, in specific situations, other locations prescribed in the work plan, and under the scientific supervision of the Dr. Hugo Rafael Cardoso Oliveira.

**Duration of the grant:** The grant will have a first contract of 12 months duration, beginning on 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2022. The fellowship contract may be renewable for up to 24 months, taking into account the new Regulations for Research Grants of the University of Algarve available at <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/152015732>.

**Value of monthly maintenance allowance:** The monthly maintenance allowance corresponds to 1.686,00 euros. The maintenance allowance will be paid monthly by bank transfer.

**Selection criteria will be as follows:** In accordance with the 2nd paragraph of article 11 of the Regulation for Research Grants of the University of Algarve, the evaluation of candidates focuses only on the following criteria:

- a) curriculum evaluation (scientific production in the last three years, publications in peer-reviewed international

journals);

b) suitability of the candidate to the work program (laboratory experience with studies of plant gene expression, preferably using RNA-seq; knowledge of bioinformatics);

c) interview.

These criteria will have the following valuation: a) curriculum evaluation (40%); b) suitability of the candidate to the work program (40%); c) interview (20%).

The selection process will include an interview to the three best candidates evaluated according to the above criteria, selected by the evaluation panel, which will have a maximum weight of 20%. Candidates who are not selected for an interview will have a weight of 80% in the set of other evaluation criteria.

The final classification for candidates is expressed on a scale from 0 to 20, with a rating up to tenths places.

**The tender jury shall comprise the following members:**

- Dr. Hugo Rafael Cardoso Oliveira (President);
- Dra. Vera Lúcia Aldeias (Effective member);
- Dra. Guilhermina Isabel dos Santos Duarte (Effective member);
- Dra. Sandra Marisa Gomes Gonçalves (Substitute member)

**Publication and notification of the results:** Final results will be publicized through an ordered list according to the final grade and posted in a conspicuous and public local of Building 1 ICArEHB, no Edifício 1 do Campus de Gambelas (FCHS) and communicated to the applicants by e-mail to the addresses indicated by each candidate.

**Deadline for applications and submission forms:** the call is open from **14/04/2022 to 31/05/2022**

Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

Official identification document (simple copy or legal equivalent). If you have a nationality other than Portuguese, you should present a residence permit, permanent residence certificate or long-term resident status, valid on the scholarship start date, any of which may be replaced, in its absence, by a declaration of commitment. However, one of the previous must be delivered at the contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the granting of the scholarship;

Copy of the qualification certificates of the academic degrees held, specifying the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all subjects taken;

If the doctorate has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must conform to the rules established in Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of August 16, and all required formalities must be complied with up to the date of termination deadline for submission of the application. If the completed process is not found until the end of the application deadline, the candidate must prove that he / she has requested the recognition of the degree.

Curriculum Vitae;

Passport or identification card for European applicants (copy);

Taxpayer Identification Number (NIF), if you have a nationality other than Portuguese, it must be submitted during the scholarship contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;

Other documents considered important

The Application Request, dated and signed, must be addressed to the President of the Evaluation Panel (<https://www.ualg.pt/sites/default/files/documentos/2021-07/anexo-iii-requerimento-para-candidatura-bolsaen20210707.pdf>) for the following address: Hugo Oliveira, Universidade do Algarve / Edifício 1, ICArEHB, Campus

de Gambelas, 8005-139 Faro, Ref.<sup>a</sup> (Projecto DOPE) or by email ([hroliveira@ualg.pt](mailto:hroliveira@ualg.pt)) to the Scientific Coordinator. If the Application Request is sent by email, the applicant must duly express his/her consent that all notifications regarding this application are sent to the email address given.

-Supporting documents stating that the applicant gathers all the requirements for this grant, namely the enrolment certificate in an awarding degree study cycle or in a postgraduate course;

-Supervisor Declaration taking the responsibility for the Work plan supervision, according to article 5º-A of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, as well as assuring the necessary conditions for the development of the work plan and in compliance with article 13 º of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow;

-Declaration of the Grant acceptance;

-Declaration of commitment stating the exclusivity regime

### **Complaints and Appeal Deadlines and procedures**

On the decision for granting the Research Grant, candidates may, if they wish, comment on the hearing of interested parties, within 10 working days, under the terms provided for in the Administrative Procedure Code.

From the practice or omission of any act of the evaluation panel, candidates can complain to the body, within 10 working days.

The final decision of the evaluation panel can be appealed to the Rector within 15 working days after the respective notification.

### **scholarship contract**

With the applicant(s) selected, and after receiving all the required documentation, a scholarship contract will be signed in accordance with the Post-Doctoral Research Grant model.

### **Assessment of the scholarship holder(s)**

At the end of each period of duration of the scholarship contract, the activity developed by the scholarship holder(s) is evaluated by the supervisor, by applying the following criteria, in accordance with the attached model:

- a) Fulfilment of objectives - evaluating the level of results' achievement by the grantee, taking into consideration the work plan and the agreed activity schedule (75%);
- b) Behavioral skills - assessing the personal characteristics highlighted during the assessment period, namely those related to professionalism and thoroughness in all activities carried out (15%);
- c) Personal attitude - rating the personal commitment and availability shown during the evaluation period, taking into account factors such as the effort made, the interest and motivation shown, as well as the receptivity of the guidance team's recommendations (10%).

University of the Algarve reserves the right to cancel this application procedure if by any means the contract celebration with the funding entity is not established.

University of Algarve, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Scientific Coordinator

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Hugo Rafael Cardoso Oliveira (PhD Cantab.)