



ADVERTISEMENT

Science Communications Intern

Contract type: Short Term Contract

Job Level: Unskilled

Work Location: Makhanda/Grahamstown, Eastern Cape

The National Research Foundation (NRF) supports and promotes research and human capital development through funding, the provision of National Research Facilities and science outreach platforms and programmes to the broader community in all fields of science and technology, including natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

The South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (NRF-SAIAB) is a National Research Facility of the NRF. NRF-SAIAB undertakes the study of African aquatic biodiversity and provides research infrastructure to the broader research community in Southern Africa. This includes specialised laboratories, vessels, natural history collections, remote observation platforms, seafloor mapping capabilities, and fish tracking arrays. Although NRF-SAIAB's headquarters are in Makhanda, the institute also has offices in Gauteng, Gqeberha and Durban.

To support the Communication & Stakeholder Relations department with content creation, social media coordination, stakeholder communications, media monitoring, and event and outreach support. This position involves administrative support, event coordination, and participation in outreach programmes.

Key Responsibilities:

- * Support Execution of Science Communications Projects & Activities
- * Coordinate Communication Events
- * Administrative Support

Key Requirements:

Qualification:

Hons: Social Sciences in Communication or equivalent

Experience:

- One years' work experience in science communications/ journalism, or related fields.

Knowledge:

- * Basic understanding of developing and implementing communications plans.
- * Ability to engage and build positive relationships with stakeholders.
- * Experience in Writing and Editing: Strong written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to craft clear and compelling messages for various communication channels and target audiences. This includes articles, and social media content.
- * Experience and understanding how to manage and coordinate interviews for storytelling purposes.
- * Digital Communications: Familiarity with digital communication channels and platforms, including social media, and websites.
- * Familiarity with digital media tools (Canva, video editors, social platforms).
- * Collaboration and Leadership: Ability to work cross-functionally with internal teams, such as IT, OHSE, Research Teams, and other departments, to align communication efforts with overall organisational objectives.

Additional Notes:

- * Good inter-personal and communication skills
- * Ability to use digital tools for communication
- * Good organisational skills
- * Accurate and efficient administrative skills
- * Good command of English language
- * Attention to detail
- * High level of computer literacy
- * Willingness to learn
- * Enthusiasm and commitment

Information:

The website www.nrf.ac.za provides more details on the NRF initiatives and activities.

Applications:

Applicants should submit a comprehensive CV by logging to <https://ess.nrf.ac.za/Account/Recruitment> and apply online. Applications should be accompanied by a letter of motivation indicating the applicant's suitability for the position. The names and contact details of at least three referees should be provided.

Closing Date: 15 September 2025

The NRF offers a challenging career and competitive remuneration package which is commensurate with qualifications and experience. The NRF is committed to employment equity and redress and the appointment to the position will be made in line with the NRF Employment Equity Plan.

The NRF reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Correspondence will be sent to short-listed candidates only