

Research Assistant, Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

Job Title: Research Assistant

Employer's Name: NUS Department of Geography

Location: Home-based, with meetings at NUS campus (Kent Ridge Campus) or NParks headquarters and significant travel around Singapore for research purposes

Description: In July 2014, the National Parks Board (NParks) announced that Singapore would be establishing its first marine park. Called *Sisters' Islands Marine Park*, this 40-hectare site has been rightly heralded as an exciting accomplishment for Singapore, representing the culmination of decades of effort by governmental agencies, researchers, non-governmental organizations, and community groups. Located around Sister's Islands, Pulau Tekukor, and St. John's Island, the marine park will support Singapore's marine heritage by protecting a wide range of marine biodiversity and habitats including coral reefs, seagrasses, sponges, crabs, and more.

The research assistant will assist a NUS Geography faculty member in conducting a social analysis of Sister's Island Marine Park. The objective of the research is to better understand the social system of *Sister's Islands Marine Park*, so to inform the writing of the marine park's management plan, guide NParks managers' thinking about how to engage with various stakeholder groups, enable preparation for stakeholder conflicts, and set a baseline for future socio-economic monitoring.

Working closely with the NUS faculty member, other RAs, and NParks personnel, responsibilities will include identifying and contacting research informants, designing questionnaires, conducting interviews, reviewing policy documents, and writing non-academic and academic papers.

Employment Type: This is a term-limited (Circa May 2016 – August 2016) position. Total hours/week are negotiable, although a minimum of 15 hrs/week commitment (including some time on weekends) is required. Pay package will be in line with NUS pay for research assistants.

Required Skills and Competencies:

- Current NUS student (Undergraduate)
- Experience designing and conducting a social science research project (or strong interest in doing so), including experience with qualitative methods (literature review, interviews, surveys, focus groups), qualitative analysis (transcribing, coding, theory building), and organization of stakeholder workshops
- Excellent writing ability, including writing of non-academic reports
- Excellent verbal communication skills with an ability to interact professionally with stakeholders from all segments of society
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills, self-guided

- Fluent written and spoken English

Preferred Skills and Competencies

- Experience in coastal/marine management research, particularly around the themes of marine protected areas, stakeholder analysis, or socio-economic analysis

Application Procedure

To apply for this role, please contact Dr. Jesse Hastings at geojgh@nus.edu.sg as soon as possible with your CV and letter of interest.