

Niigata University ‘Swing-by’ Program for Fostering Young Faculty Members

(Recruitment and Training Program for Young Faculty Members)

Call for applications for Assistant Professor in Institute of Natural Science and Technology,
Niigata University

Niigata University is implementing the "Niigata University Young Faculty Swing-by Program," a program for the collective recruitment and training of young faculty members, targeting outstanding young researchers who are active in a variety of fields in Japan and overseas. This program is designed to foster researchers who are willing to conduct cross-disciplinary research at the university while deepening their research in their respective fields of specialization.

In the Young Faculty Swing-by Program, we will recruit young faculty members from across disciplines. Recruits will be selected through a first round of selection based on their expertise in their respective fields, followed by a second round of selection based on comprehensive perspectives by the executive officers. The selected faculty members will be affiliated with the academic departments, etc., according to their fields of expertise, and will concurrently serve in the Institute for Research Administration, which is in charge of promoting research at Niigata University, and will be engaged in activities to bring forth the seeds of new interdisciplinary research that can become the new flagship of Niigata University.

Research Field for Recruitment

“Information Ethics”, “Folklore Studies·Museum Studies”, “Economic Law”, “Theoretical Economics (Behavioral Economics)”, “Food Analysis”, “Intelligent Information Processing, Date Science”, “Environmental Science of Regional Water Circulation”, “Quantitative Biology”, “Energy Conversion Science, Artificial Photosynthesis, Photocatalyst”, “Soil Mechanics and Related Engineering Fields”, “Production Engineering or Measurement Engineering”, “International Infectious Diseases”, “Dentistry; Interdisciplinary Dentistry”, “Department of Mental Development and Medicine”, “Feeding Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering”, “Bioorganic Chemistry, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Date Science”, “Department of Physiology”, “Research on Advanced Brain Pathology Analysis”

Number of Positions

About 15

As a part of this recruitment, we are recruiting faculty members in charge of the Environmental Science of Regional Water Circulation field.

1. Job Type

Assistant Professor (Permanent Faculty Position)

2. Expected Date of Joining

April 1, 2023

3. Affiliation

Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences
Selected candidate is required to carry out teaching and research in
Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences,
and, will be also appointed to work concurrently at the Institute for
Research Administration. As a general rule, you will be working as a faculty member
employed in the swing-by program concurrently with the Institute for Research
Administration for three years from the time of hiring.

4. Job Description

[Affiliation] Faculty of Science/Graduate School of Science and Technology

[Job Description]

1. Research: Based on the expertise in the field of earth and planetary sciences, particularly in the field of water circulation that covers the ocean-atmosphere-land system, you will work with our faculty members to elucidate the mechanisms that cause environmental changes that are the background for the occurrence of various phenomena related to regional water environments (heavy rain, heavy snow, avalanches, snow melt, landslides, and water-related natural disasters, etc.). The project will also focus on the "water circulation" as a key concept. You will also collaborate with faculty members of the Research Institute for Natural Hazards and Disaster Recovery, Sado Island Center for Ecological Sustainability, and the Faculty of Agriculture to address various issues related to the water circulation that the local environment will face in the future by developing a multifaceted approach based on your expertise in earth and planetary sciences, with "water circulation" as the keyword.
2. Education: You will be responsible for Faculty of Science (at least one of Program of Field Research in the Environmental Sciences and Program of Environmental Science) and the Department of Environmental Science, Graduate School of Science and Technology (at least one of Course of Field Research in the Environmental Sciences and Course of Natural System Science). Further, you will contribute to the development of core leaders and professionals who will play an active role in the revitalization of local communities related to environmental change, floods, and disaster prevention.
3. Other activity: You will contribute to the "Regional Disaster Environment System," which is being established as a packaged minor under the Niigata University Interdisciplinary Creative Education Program (NICE).

*As a general rule, you will participate in "Swing-by" Program as an adjunct faculty member of the Research Management Organization for three years after assuming your position.

[Research Field] Earth and planetary science and related fields (especially meteorology, oceanography, Hydrology, environmental sciences, etc. related to water circulation science)

[Remarks Column for Assistant Professor] PI of research group

5. Qualifications

(1) As a general rule, those who have obtained his/her PhD degree in his/her field of research within the past 10 years. (Including those who are expected to obtain his/her PhD degree by the date of appointment).

(2) Those who have a proven track record of research in the above-mentioned specialized fields and are willing to conduct cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

(3) Those who understand the purpose of the Swing-by Program and are willing and able to work on it.

(4) Those who are able to live in Niigata City or its suburbs, and carry out his/her duty after being hired.

6. Terms of Employment

(1) Work Location: 8050 Ikarashi 2-no-cho, Nishi-ku, Niigata, Niigata, Japan

(2) Salary: Annual salary system based on “Regulations for New Annual Salary System for Faculties of Niigata University,” and other benefits as per the University rules and regulations

(3) Employment Type:

- Employment time : Discretionary labor system will be applied (deemed working hours: 7 hours and 45 minutes a day)
- Holidays : Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, holidays around the end of the year and the beginning of the year, etc.

(4) Health insurance: Provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association, Employment Insurance, Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance

(5) Working environment: Provision of own personal office and laboratory: Yes (TBD)

7. Support for Nurturing Young Researchers

In order to take advantage of the Swing-by Program, which is a collective recruitment system that transcends fields, we ask that you concurrently serve at the Institute for Research Administration for the first three years after your appointment and engage in the following activities

- To proactively develop networks across departments and disciplines.
- To conduct interdisciplinary exchange activities utilizing the established network and disseminate the results widely inside and outside the university.

In order to realize the above, the following activities and others are included.

- Planning and management of employer synchronization meetings and interdisciplinary exchange meetings
- At least once a year, exchange of opinions with the president and board members
- Training on teaching methods at universities

- Allocation of start-up research funds from the Swing-by Program

In addition, the University has the following research support systems, which we expect you to make active use of.

- Niigata University equipment sharing system
- Support for obtaining external funds such as ‘Kakenhi’
- Regular interdisciplinary exchange meetings
- Other training for education and research activities

8. Application Documents

Online submission in JREC-IN Portal. If you have difficulty applying online, please send the following documents by mail.

- (1) Curriculum Vitae (You must paste your photograph for personal identification).
- (2) A list of research achievements (Please list up your achievements by categories, such as peer-reviewed papers and their SCI Journal Impact Factors and Quartiles (Q1-Q4), books, invited lectures, academic awards, patents, and other outstanding achievements international conference papers, Books and other literary (Three major papers are marked with ©)
- (3) Status of acquisition of external funding (Please indicate whether you are a principal researcher or a co-investigator)
- (4) Outline of your current and past research activities as well as your future aspirations for education and research if hired by Niigata university, which should be approximately 1,000 words.
- (5) If you have teaching experience, a list of courses for which you have been in charge (name of course, name of educational institution, and year in charge), and the number of undergraduate graduate research and master's and doctoral students for each year of completion (limited to cases in which yourself has provided substantial guidance).
- (6) Contact information including email address of two references, who can independently provide an opinion on your academic achievements, character and conduct.

*If applying by mail, please also send

- (7) Printouts or copies of up to three major research achievements

*You may be required to submit additional documents if necessary.

Please confirm that all the required documents are included in an envelope. Outside the envelop please specify clearly in red ink “Enclosed the application documents for ‘Swing-by’ program for Environmental Science of Regional Water Circulation (Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences)”, and send it to the address shown below by registered post or courier service (in a way which allows you to confirm that your application has been received by us).

*Application documents will not be returned, and handled with strict confidentiality. Your personal information obtained by Niigata University in the process of the recruitment will be properly handled based on “Act on the Protection of Personal Information”, and will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process.

9. Screening and Selection Schedule

(1) Application Deadline: Must arrive no later than 5:00 pm, August 17, 2023. (Japan time)

(2) First screening: Late August to mid-September, 2023, Screening of documents and Interview of shortlisted candidates (Onsite/online interview might be conducted).

(3) Notification of the result of the first selection: Late September, 2023

(4) Schedule for final screening: Mid-Oct. ~ Mid-Nov. plans, 2023, Interview by University President and board members (Online interview might be conducted).

(5) Notification of the result:

Applicants will be notified of the result after the selection process is over.

*All costs relating to the selection process such as travel expenses and accommodation fee must be borne by the applicant.

10. Contact Information:

For any further information, please contact us by e-mail.

(1) Applications should be submitted to:

General Affairs Division, Institute of Science and Technology, Niigata University

Address: 8050, Ikarashi 2-no-cho, Nishi-ku, Niigata, Japan 950-2181

TEL: +81-25-262-6823

FAX: +81-25-262-7940

E-mail: skei-shomu@adm.niigata-u.ac.jp

11. Inquiries Regarding the Content of the Work:

Please contact us by e-mail, unless otherwise the matter is urgent.

(1) Inquiry: Prof. Meiji HONDA, Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Niigata University

E-mail: meiji@env.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp

12. Others

*Niigata University has set up the “Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” in our campus, and is firmly committed to gender balance and supporting physically handicapped researchers (<https://diversity.nu.niigata-u.ac.jp/>).

*Niigata University is promoting hiring of faculty members who have a flexible attitude in today’s global society and to realize the globalization of our campus. We welcome applications from foreigners who can communicate with researchers and students in English. Japanese communication skill will be an added advantage, but not an essential condition for the application.