











LabEx Sciences Archéologiques de Bordeaux

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# JUNIOR CHAIR International Call for highly qualified and motivated junior scientists 2015 - LaScArBx Cluster of excellence

## Description of the Cluster of excellence

The LaScArBx Cluster of excellence brings together three joint research laboratories (UMR) of the Universities of Bordeaux working in the field of Archaeology (UMR 5607 AUSONIUS, UMR 5199 PACEA, UMR 5060 IRAMAT-CRP2A). Such a range of "archaelogical sciences" and covering such a chronological field (Archaeology, History, Prehistory, Classical Studies, Biological Anthropology, Archaeomaterials, Palaeoenvironment, Rock Art, Archaeotechnology).

The LaScArBx's general objectives and the characteristics of the three associated laboratories are described at: <a href="http://lascarbx.labex.u-bordeaux.fr/">http://lascarbx.labex.u-bordeaux.fr/</a>

The theme of research of LaScArBx is entitled "Using the world in ancient societies: process and forms of appropriation of space in Long Time". This focus on the notion of space is not in itself original (archaeology has always consisted in studying how past societies interacted with their environments, natural or cultural, as well as the consequences of these interactions). However, the chronological scale of the subject (from Prehistory to the Middle Ages and even beyond in certain areas), its spatial extent (across several continents), the diversity and combination of the disciplines and skills carried out to address it in its totality constitute the specific strengths of this project: space is here conceived of in all the senses of the word (environment, place, territory), understood in the long term (in certain cases over tens of millennia) and across the diversity of its interactions with Man, these being documented by the entire range of archaeological sciences.

This theme is channelled through three routes (1. Settlement and territories, 2. Exploitation, innovation, exchange, 3. Expressions of the symbolic and spaces of memory), each of them dealing with the relationship between Man and the space that surrounds him, and in particular the different processes of appropriation of this space that were developed by ancient societies. These themes are described at: http://lascarbx.labex-univ-bordeaux.fr/Le-programme-scientifique-LaScArBx/r164.html

### Call for applications

LaScArBx Cluster of excellence is offering a Junior Chair (equivalent to Assistant Professorship) attached to one of the associated laboratories (AUSONIUS) while being in connection with the other two (PACEA and IRAMAT-CRP2A).

We aim to attract in Bordeaux a junior scientist, either French or foreign, whose work shows a level of excellence already recognized internationally, by providing means to undertake an ambitious research project with a visible impact. We seek motivated creative researchers with a strong interest in the development of our interdisciplinary programme. LaScArBx gives candidates an opportunity to devote themselves full time to their research at the start of their careers.

In order to match the programme standards, applicants have to submit an innovative research proposal, dealing with the following topic:

\*Gestes techniques, gestes rituels, pratiques sociales/Technical and ritual processes and social

# practices"

This junior chair aims at attracting a young high-profile researcher, with an international focus, in order to feed 2 thematic Axes of the LaScArBx: Axis n°2 ("Exploitation, innovation, exchange") and Axis n°3 ("Expressions of the symbolic and spaces of memory") through an investigation focused on ancient (from the Bronze Age to the end of the Roman Empire) and/or medieval societies, the time span covered by the host institution, the laboratory Ausonius (UMR 5607). Research projects must focus on the analysis on an archaeological basis of sequences linked with technical and/or symbolic processes. Cross analysis emphasizing the symbolic aspects of the technical action or the practical aspects of the symbolic action will be favored. Within this range, every topic can be submitted: there is no need to focus on a specific technical (e.g. metallurgy) or symbolic (e.g. sacrifice) activity or even in a specific cultural entity. On the contrary, cross-cultural analysis are warmly welcomed.

The applicant will have to demonstrate that he/she is able to participate to academic teaching, through the organization of seminars, and to integrate or develop programs in research field or in experimental archaeology.

#### Location, duration and appointments

Host Laboratory: UMR 5607 AUSONIUS (Bordeaux-Montaigne University) <a href="http://ausonius.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr/">http://ausonius.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr/</a>

The duration of the stay is of one year (renewable twice, for a maximum period of three years), starting mars 1st 2016 (negociable). In addition to an attractive salary (€43,500 gross per year), a travel allowance and research funds (10 k€ for the first year, 7 k€ for the second one) will be provided. The Junior Chair will also be assisted in preparing applications for National and European funding programs (ANR, ERC...) and/or for a French academic research position.

He/She will have a personal workspace in the host laboratory and an access to on-campus facilities including technological platforms.

#### **Eligible applicants**

This type of Chair is intended for recognized junior level researchers, of any nationality, who obtained their Ph.D. between 2 and 10 years ago. They must have post-doctoral experience. For French applicants it is recommended, although not compulsory, to have had 2 years of scientific experience in a foreign laboratory or university.

# **Procedure and Timetable**

Applicants have to submit a pre-proposal application sent by email to Sylvie Maleret (sylvie.maleret@u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr) before January 4<sup>th</sup> 2016. This pre-proposal application should include the following elements in a single PDF file (single spaced Arial 11):

- a summary of the project (up to 5 pages including the objectives, the rationale and the methodology, highlighting the novelty, originality and feasibility of the project as well as the added value to LaScArBx and the host laboratory)
- a description of past and present research activities (up to 4 pages)
- a CV
- a complete list of publications
- 2 letters of recommendation from senior scientists

The applicants preselected at this stage will be invited for an interview in February 2016. The successful applicant is expected to start working in Bordeaux on March 2016, but a later date is possible.

