



UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND, Arctic Centre

Appointment description

Professorship: Arctic resilience and adaptation

starting 1 January 2026 or as agreed.

Professor position in Arctic resilience and adaptation

The Professor position is situated within Arctic Resilience and Adaptation, a strategic, cutting-edge research area at the University of Lapland.

Research

The Professor in Arctic Resilience and Adaptation conducts research on the ability of arctic communities and ecosystems to respond to changes in climate, the environment, and biota, including human-induced changes brought about by factors in human-made environment and social-economic factors. The professor studies the ways in which this complex change affects societal, political, legal and economic development of the Arctic, addresses how nature and arctic social-ecological systems have adapted to past and current change, and examines the nature of their resilience and the interrelationships involved, as well as envisions what the ability to adapt and resilience might look like in the future. In addition, the professor introduces new, critical perspectives into the emerging, multidisciplinary research area of resilience and adaptation.

In addition to conducting their own research, the professor participates in the implementation and development of the multidisciplinary research strategy of the Arctic Centre. The professor establishes and leads a multidisciplinary research group with members from the Arctic Centre, the faculties of the University of Lapland, as well as other universities and research institutions. The professor will apply for external funding and will have research findings published particularly in international, high-level scientific publications. Moreover, the professor will participate in societal interaction and international collaboration in their field of research.

Teaching and student supervision

The professor provides teaching on subjects within the scope of the position and supervises students' theses and postgraduate studies. The professor participates in developing the university's international degree programmes together with the vice rector for education and the faculties of the university. In addition, the professor has a role in developing the university's researcher education.

Tasks of the Director of the Arctic Centre

The position of professor also includes the tasks of the Director of the Arctic Centre for a fixed



period from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2029. The director runs the Arctic Centre according to the university strategy.

The tasks of the director are:

1. to prepare the material for the Arctic Centre's performance agreement negotiations and to submit a proposal for the strategic personnel plan;
2. in accordance with the strategic personnel plan, to submit a proposal to the Rector or the director of administration for the hiring of staff to fixed-term positions, excluding Tenure Track positions;
3. to be accountable for the finances of the Arctic Centre and to report them and other activities regularly to the executive board and the Rector;
4. to function as the presenting member of the Arctic Centre's executive board and the international scientific advisory board and to determine the preparation and presentation responsibilities and methods of implementation;
5. to conduct the Arctic Centre's performance agreement negotiations and Rector's reviews together with the Rector;
6. to promote collaboration between the Arctic Centre and the faculties and within the Arctic Centre;
7. to promote the international activities of the Arctic Centre;
8. to grant a leave of absence to an employee of the Arctic Centre for tending to another position at the centre;
9. to be in charge of the development discussions, total work time plans, and salary assessments at the Arctic Centre;
10. to supervise and promote well-being and equality at the Arctic Centre and to secure development possibilities for staff;
11. to process and resolve other matters concerning the institute unless otherwise prescribed.

Operational environment

The location of the position is the Arctic Centre in Rovaniemi, Finland.

The Arctic Centre is an international hub of information and a centre of excellence that conducts multidisciplinary research on arctic issues. It is based in the Arktikum House by the River Ounasjoki in Rovaniemi. The Arktikum House is also home to the science centre, which is operated by the Arctic Centre, as well as the Regional Museum of Lapland.

The Arctic Centre conducts research on the Arctic and the Antarctic. The centre's multidisciplinary research combines perspectives of natural sciences and social sciences. Research is conducted in four 5-year research programmes:

- Global Change
- Arctic Politics and Development
- Just Green Transition
- Arctic Societies: Past, Present and Future



The Arctic Centre also provides research services to the surrounding society, such as companies and administrative authorities.

Qualification requirements

The qualification requirements for the position of professor to be filled on scientific grounds are set out in Section 29 of the University of Lapland's Rules of Procedure.

An appointee to a professorship to be filled on scientific grounds is required to have a doctoral degree, superior academic competence, experience in leading scientific research, the ability to provide high-quality teaching based on research, and thesis supervision skills. In addition, the appointee must have demonstrable experience in international collaboration in the field the appointee represents.

In assessing the candidate's eligibility for a professorship, the following merits are considered: scientific publications and other research results with scientific value; teaching experience and pedagogical training; skill in creating learning materials; other achievements in education; performance in a teaching demonstration, where necessary; and supervised dissertations. In addition, the following are considered: success in acquiring supplementary research funding; experience in societal interaction; active engagement in the activities of the scientific community; practical knowledge of the field in question, where necessary; scientific work abroad; and international assignments.

The applicant is requested to attach a research plan and a teaching portfolio to their application. During the selection process, particular attention is paid to the quality of the research plan and its strategic links to the research conducted at the Arctic Centre.

The Director of the Arctic Centre is accountable for the performance of the unit and its strategic management and development. We are seeking an experienced leader with a demonstrably strong ability to develop and maintain extensive national and international networks on arctic issues. We also expect the successful candidate to take an active role in developing the operations of the Arctic Centre and to have strong collaboration, communication, organizational and stakeholder skills.

General qualification requirements

An appointee to a university position must have the education, experience, and language skills required to successfully perform the duties of the position. These requirements are defined separately for each position prior to filling the position, considering the language proficiency requirements set out in section 1 of the Government Decree on Universities (770/2009).

The working language of the Arctic Centre is English, and the language of instruction at the Arctic Centre is English. Fluency in written and spoken English is required for the successful performance of the duties assigned to this position.



Regulations on the tasks of assessors

Prior to filling a position, statements on the qualifications and merits of applicants or invitees to a position must be requested from a minimum of two assessors for an appointment that is in effect until further notice or for a fixed period of at least two years. The disqualification of an assessor is governed by the provisions in sections 27–29 of the Administrative Procedure Act. (Universities Act, 2009/558, Section 33).

The assessor's statement is provided in writing. The statement must consider the duties assigned to the professor position, the qualification requirements, and the matters considered an advantage in the application evaluation. The statement must provide justification for the selection of the applicants who, in the assessor's view, are the top candidates to be considered for the position. A statement is provided only on applicants who, in the assessor's view, fulfill the requirements of the position. The statement must explicitly state the reasons why particular applicants have been selected instead of the others for further assessment. The assessors may discuss with each other, and they may also provide a joint statement.

This Description of the process of filling a position and its appendices, along with copies of the application documents and the publications attached to the application, will be submitted to the assessors. The assessors will be requested to provide a written statement on the applicants within three months of receiving the request. Prior to the selection of assessors, the applicants are given the opportunity to submit a notice regarding the assessor candidates' disqualification.

The Executive Board may carry out a preliminary assessment of the applicants and submit the application documents of the applicants considered the top candidates for the position to the assessors.

Instructions on communication and materials

In order to receive the relevant information and notifications during the process of filling the position, the applicants must provide their contact information, including how they can be reached during the process, and provide the address to which the notifications regarding the process should be sent.

The following documents must be attached to the application:

- Application/letter of motivation
- Curriculum Vitae
- Teaching portfolio
- A list of publications prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Research Council of Finland
- A list of up to ten most relevant publications related to the position
- A research plan related to the position

The vacancy is announced in October 2025, and the application period is 30 days.



Further information on the position and the application, selection and appointment process

The position is publicly announced as open for applications.

The salary in the position of professor is based on the universities' salary system for teaching and research personnel. According to the competence level classification, the professor's task-specific salary component conforms to levels 8–11. In addition, the total salary includes a personal performance-based salary component amounting up to 50% of the task-specific component. In addition, a fee for administrative duties is paid separately.

Appointment

The Executive Board of the Arctic Centre presents a proposal to the Rector on the person to be appointed to the position.

The Rector of the University of Lapland appoints the successful candidate to the position of professor.