

PACE International Jordan project – 1st July to 28th July 2012

(Project information as of 10 February 2012)

This project will work with the Commissioner of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone (ASEZA), in the Wadi Rum World Heritage Area of the Kingdom of Jordan.

Wadi Rumman is in the Wadi Rum Protected Area which was added to the World Heritage list in 2011. Within Wadi Rumman is an approximately 12km² enclosure for the release of Arabian Oryx. Currently 22 Arabian Oryx are currently in this enclosure with plans to release more. Participants will help provide background information to enable ASEZA to directly identify management issues and strategies and present priorities, with a view to improving Arabian Oryx management and sustainability and maintain biodiversity in Wadi Rum.

The project will follow up on baseline Ecological Surveys performed by the Jordanian Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) in 1999 and 2000 throughout what is now the Wadi Rum World Heritage Area. These surveys provide invaluable baseline information relating to fields covered. They also provide useful recommendation of future work to be performed. This project has been developed with their recommendations in mind and with the following specific objectives:

- Identify threats to the Arabian Oryx reintroduction program
- Learn about Arabian Oryx requirements and sustainability
- Expand on knowledge of the ecosystem of Wadi Rumman
- Fill in gaps not addressed in previous surveys
- Identify changes that may have occurred since the previous surveys
- Identify threats to biodiversity in Wadi Rumman
- Train staff in research methods, fieldwork, survey techniques, plant identification, animal handling and identification, and landscape and wildlife management
- Specific surveys will target: Arabian Oryx, vegetation, birds, carnivores and small mammals – further details available through the PACEI Office and the Unit Convenor.

PACE International is extremely fortunate to be invited to work within this World Heritage Site and with ASEZA staff. To ensure a successful collaboration, potential applicants should be aware that:

- Participants must be prepared to live and work in a conservative, culturally sensitive environment
- The final week of project is during Ramadan, when strict rules on eating and drinking during daylight hours must be observed and respected by participants
- The project will include extensive field work, in temperatures that can exceed 40°C during the day. As Wadi Rum has a desert climate, nights are cooler (20-25°C).

Note: the above project information is a guide only as final projects and outputs are subject to the partner organisation's needs.

Selection Criteria

- Academic Standing (minimum GPA of 2.0)
- Cross cultural sensitivity and relevant experience
- Commitment and initiative
- Demonstrated ability to work independently or as part of a team
- Patience and understanding of local work ethics and practises
- Motivated, adaptable, and flexible to change

Pre-Departure Sessions

There are compulsory pre-departure sessions on Wednesday 23rd May 2012 & Saturday 2nd June 2012.

Cost Information

You will be responsible for the project fee of **AUD\$2,400 – \$2,700**. The project fee includes:

Health and police checks	In-country orientation
Travel insurance	Pre-departure briefings
Airport transfers	Shared accommodation
Groceries to prepare breakfast/lunch	Dinners at accommodation
Project activity costs	Transport to/from project

You will also be responsible for other expenses including:

International return flights	Vaccinations
New/renewed passport & Visas	Optional Activities
Other costs may include: Phone calls, Laundry, and spending money. These costs will vary depending on your individual needs.	

Participation Grant

A participation grant of AUD\$2,000 will be awarded to eligible participants who have been offered a position on the project and will be processed internally prior to departure.

Applications

Applications are open to all enrolled Macquarie University domestic and international students studying an undergraduate or postgraduate degree, with a current Macquarie GPA of 2.0 or above. Applicants must meet the selection criteria and apply by **midnight Sunday 15th April 2012**. The application process and dates are available at our website below.

Further information & enquiries

Web: www.pace.mq.edu.au/students/international

Mobile web: www.winksite.mobi/PACEIntl/home

Email: paceinternational@mq.edu.au

Face-to-Face: www.paceinternational.clickbook.net

(Appointments available Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 PM from Week 1 to Week 6 each Semester)

Phone: 02 9850 9927