Arctic Sea Ice Algae

The lab of Dr. Susanne Neuer is looking for an undergraduate student to assist with an ongoing research projects on Arctic sea ice communities. The work will include microscopy of sea ice samples and growth experiments with diatoms isolated from the Arctic Ocean. Our research focuses on community structure of algae within the sea ice, the sinking of these communities from the ice, and finally growth rates of specific isolated strains of sea ice algae aimed to test their response to various environmental conditions (temperature, light, salinity, etc.). The Arctic Ocean is changing and understanding the tightly coupled sea ice community will help aid future research in this vulnerable environment.

Student responsibilities will include microscopic analyses of sea ice communities collected in the sea ice off Barrow, AK from various Arctic field seasons. Also, the student will be responsible for conducting growth experiments by following the growth of specific algae under different growth conditions and calculating their growth rates. The student should be available for at least 10 hours a week (flexible within regular work hours) including Friday mornings for a group lab meeting. Those with an interest in microbial ecology, biological oceanography or marine ecology are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in this research opportunity please send a resume and short statement about your interests and experience to Dr. Susanne Neuer (susanne.neuer@asu.edu) or Kyle Kinzler (kyle.kinzler@asu.edu).