

Chris Bowler

Letter of motivation

I hereby present my candidacy for the Scientific Council of the Stazione Zoologica.

I worked at the Stazione Zoologica from 1993 to 2003, as Primo Ricercatore and head of the Cell Signalling Laboratory. During this time I established an experimental model system to explore the biology, ecology and evolution of phytoplankton by reverse genetics, and published several seminal papers, including in Science. My ten years at the Stazione Zoologica also gave me a deep awareness of the scientific impact of the institute in the history of science and an appreciation of its high standing in national and international contexts. Since leaving the institute I have been successful in expanding my research in many areas that are of fundamental interest to researchers at the Stazione Zoologica, including in ecology, evolution, and biotechnology, as well as functional, comparative and environmental genomics, and biological oceanography. I am also member of several scientific advisory boards for renowned research institutes, companies, and foundations. I therefore feel that I can make solid contributions to the Scientific Council in providing sound advice regarding the Stazione's research activities and in contributing to the development of a strategic vision for future programmes.