

Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung Abteilung 3 – Personal



1414/2016

Halle (Saale), 28.11.2016

External Job advertisement Reference file number- 4-11424/16-D

The **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig** is one of four National Research Centres funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). It is located in the city of Leipzig and jointly hosted by the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the University of Leipzig (UL), and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). It is supported by the Max Planck Society, the Leibniz Association, the Klaus Tschira Foundation and the Free State of Saxony. Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. The concept of iDiv encompasses the detection of biodiversity, understanding its emergence, exploring its consequences for ecosystem functions and services, and developing strategies to safeguard biodiversity under global change. The Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with iDiv, offers the following position initially limited until 30.09.2020), salary: Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L:

Biodiversity Scientist-Computer Science

(full time employment, earliest possible start date)

The position is affiliated with the Biodiversity Synthesis professorship of Prof. Jonathan Chase in Leipzig, but will be expected to work closely with the synthesis centre (sDiv), Biodiversity Informatics Unit (BDU) and Bioinformatics Unit (BIU) of iDiv, as well as with several other affiliates of the iDiv consortium. The position will also play a prominent role in the interface with the Group on Earth Observations—Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON), and other international biodiversity data initiatives (e.g., GBIF, Future Earth).

Requirements / expected profile:

- A PhD degree in applied computer science or a related field (interest and/or experience in bioinformatics, ecoinformatics or biodiversity studies is a plus)
- Fluency in programming and database development, data integration, text mining, machine learning, and/or natural language processing. Experience in software development and web applications a plus, as well as programming in R.
- Strong publication record (or evidence that this will be forthcoming)
- Evidence of willingness to be open-minded, creative and to apply multiple tools to address complex problems, working individually and as a part of teams of people with diverse perspectives
- Teaching experience a plus, with interest in helping to bridge computer sciences and biodiversity sciences
- Fluent in English with excellent communication skills

Topic / job description:

- The incumbent will participate in the development of new initiative to extract biodiversity data from the published literature and make it broadly available to the scientific community. Additional duties will include the development of database, web-based and software tools for the deposition and curation of these data. The incumbent will be expected to develop novel computational techniques with a focus on 'usability' for biodiversity scientists.
- Bridge the iDiv-based research group of 'Biodiversity Synthesis' with the Computer Sciences department at MLU. This will include co-teaching one or more courses in Computer Sciences at MLU with a focus on computational approaches in biodiversity sciences, and supervising students.
- Facilitating other members of iDiv and visitors to sDiv workshops with analytical and computational support of biodiversity-related problems, and being an active and engaged member of the scientific community at iDiv, MLU and affiliated institutions (e.g., attend seminars, discussions, events).

Applications should consist of a single .pdf file including (i) a 2-3 page overview of background and skills in both computational and biodiversity sciences relevant to this position, (ii) curriculum vitae, and (iv) the names and email addresses of three individuals who could provide an evaluation of the candidate upon request. Applications should be sent to jonathan.chase@idiv.de as a single .pdf with registration number **4-11424/16-D** in the subject line, addressed to Professor Jon Chase, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig; Deutscher Platz 5e; 04103 Leipzig and are accepted until **20.12.2016**.

For any questions or to indicate your interest in applying, feel free to contact Professor Chase by email. Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. Women are strongly urged to submit an application.

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions.