iDiv German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig

MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG

Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung
Abteilung 3 – Personal

Zertifikat seit 2009 audit familiengerechte hochschule

1055/2017

Halle (Saale), 11.08.2017

External Job Announcement
Reference Number 4-7645/17-D

The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) 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 ***limited until September 30th 2020***

Postdoctoral Research Scientist

(full time employment, earliest possible start date)

The salary will be determined up to pay grade 13 TV-L depending on the assigned tasks and personal qualifications.

Requirements / expected profile:

- A PhD degree in biodiversity, ecosystem science, or related area
- strong statistical and theoretical modelling skills; programming skills (especially in R)
- Interest in collaboration and synthesis within and across traditional research boundaries
- Fluent in English with excellent communication skills

Tasks / job description:

- Develop and implement research approaches consistent with the core research aims, including publishing scientific papers in internationally peer-reviewed journals
- Participate in sDiv workshops, providing conceptual and analytical support, as well as co-authorship of papers published in internationally peer-reviewed journals
- Data analysis and preparation of manuscripts

The goal of the research to be conceived and coordinated by the postdoc, will be to develop and implement new tools and concepts to consider the joint relationships between biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystems. To date, most studies have either considered the influence of ecosystems on biodiversity, or of biodiversity on ecosystems, without clear recognition that these are not bivariate relationships, but rather interactive. Furthermore, most approaches on the ecosystem-biodiversity interface do not consider the role of natural community assembly processes and the inescapable role of scale. The postdoc will (1) build on recent analytical advances exploring the interactive relationship between community assembly and ecosystem functioning being developed at iDiv and elsewhere (e.g., Price equation, SEM); (2) take advantage of a rich array of experimental and observational datasets where such approaches can be applied within the iDiv consortium and beyond (e.g., NutNet, GCEF, Jena Experiment, and many others); (3) provide a catalyst within and outside of iDiv, including participating internal and international working groups to help develop the next generation of ecosystem-biodiversity interactions studies.

This position will be supervised by Professor Jonathan Chase (iDiv/MLU), but will involve significant collaborations with other members of iDiv and its broader consortium, notably Stan Harpole (iDiv/UFZ), Christiane Roscher (iDiv/UFZ), and Harald Auge (UFZ). There will also be significant opportunity to participate in collaborations with others inside and outside of the iDiv consortium via working groups as part of sDiv and training groups. Participation in teaching at the PhD level and other career-advancing opportunities are also available.

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.

Applications including motivation letter, CV and certificates should be directed to bettina.zschille@idiv.de and addressed to Prof. Jonathan Chase, Professor of Biodiversity Synthesis, iDiv. Application *should be in single pdf file* **with reference file number 4-7645/17-D** and are accepted **until 15th September 2017**.

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions. Application costs will not be reimbursed.