

**iDiv**German Centre for Integrative  
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)  
Halle-Jena-LeipzigMARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT  
HALLE-WITTENBERG

## Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung Abteilung 3 – Personal

Halle (Saale), 21.12.2017

**1699/2017**

### External Announcement - Reg.-Nr.: 5-12946/17-D

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Faculty of Natural Sciences I, Institute of Biology offers the following position with Leipzig as job location and a preferred **starting date of 1 March 2018**:

#### Research Officer 'Plant-pollinator interactions in the Arctic'

Part-time (65 %) The position is limited to 31 January 2021. The salary will be determined up to pay grade 13 TV-L depending on the assigned tasks and personal qualifications.

The position is affiliated to the Spatial Interaction Ecology research group of Prof. Tiffany Knight, and the position will be located at iDiv in Leipzig, Germany. The Research Officer will work on 'The Silen Project', a project investigating plant-pollinator interactions in the Arctic. The aim is to quantify baseline estimates of plant-pollinator interactions and pollen limitation in understudied areas of the European Arctic and, in areas where it is possible, to quantify long-term changes in plant-pollinator networks using historic data of plants and pollinators from more than a century ago. Such comparisons between modern day plant-pollinator networks and historical data provide a unique opportunity to assess climate change effects on plant-pollinator interactions that are usually difficult to assess considering that they may take decades to transpire. Since climate change is advancing at a pronounced rate in higher latitude regions, Arctic ecosystems provide an ideal opportunity to examine how climate change will alter plant-pollinator interactions.

#### Requirements/ expected profile:

- University degree in Biology, Ecology, Environmental Sciences or similar (Diploma/ M.Sc.)
- Specialized in plant-pollinator interactions
- Experience identifying insect pollinators, in particular for Dipterans and Hymenopterans, as well as plants
- Experience undertaking field research (field research in Arctic ecosystems is an asset)
- Experience analyzing data using R
- Experience of network analysis is an asset
- Fluent in English (spoken and written) with excellent communication skills, basic knowledge of German and/or a Scandinavian language is an asset but not required
- Experience working in international teams is an advantage

#### Tasks/ job description:

- Independent planning, organization and realization of a field study and collection of plant- pollinator data to be conducted over several weeks per year in the Arctic, mostly in Scandinavia
- Construction of comparative plant-pollinator networks in high latitude regions using R software to compare data collected in the early 1900's and today to analyze the associated historical change
- Data analysis and statistical evaluation (including quantitative comparative analysis i.e. mixed-effects models) to determine relationships between environmental factors, network attributes, plant traits and pollen limitation
- Publication of results in international journals
- Participation in mentoring of interns, Bachelor and/or Master students at MLU/UFZ/iDiv
- Be an active and engaged member of the scientific community at MLU, iDiv and affiliated institutions (e.g., attend seminars, discussions, events)
- The possibility for further scientific training is given, including the independent research for the PhD project 'Plant-pollinator interactions in the Arctic'

Priority will be given to applicants with severe disability and with equal qualifications. Women are strongly encouraged to submit their applications. For any queries please contact Nina Becker, E-mail: [Nina.Becker@idiv.de](mailto:Nina.Becker@idiv.de)

Applications should consist of a single .pdf file including (i) a letter of interest, (ii) a brief overview of the skills and experiences that the candidate has that could be applied to this topic (1 page), (iii) curriculum vitae, and (iv) the names and email addresses of two individuals who could provide an evaluation of the candidate upon request. Please submit your full application dossier only in English and in electronic form with registration number 5-12946/2017-D in the **subject line until 16 January 2018** to the above mentioned E-mail address.

The interviews are likely to be held at the end of January 2018.

The announcement takes place pending any possible budget restrictions. Application expenses cannot be reimbursed by the Martin Luther University.