

## Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung Abteilung 3 – Personal



564/2017

Halle (Saale), 27.04.2017

### Extenal Reference file number 4-3982/2017-D

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg offers the following position:

#### Doctoral position

(limited to 3 years, 65 percent of a full-time employment)

Salary: Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L

on **“Environmental controls on local, regional and global patterns of biodiversity”**

#### **Background:**

This project will dissect the main components underlying patterns of species richness variation (e.g., numbers and relative abundances and distributions of individuals) in order to generalize one of the most important drivers of variation in biodiversity across the planet— environmental supplies of energy and resources. With data that go beyond typical species richness data, and across spatial scales, we can test several hypotheses proposed to underlie this biodiversity gradient, including ‘more individuals’, ‘more niches’ and others.

#### **Job description:**

The project will consist of two parts. First, there will be an empirical part where the doctoral researcher will work to develop a field system where aspects of the relationship between resource drivers and biodiversity can be measured and dissected (the field system is open, but could include data from a globally replicated grassland system, trees, invertebrates in lakes, or other). Second, the researcher will build a database and conduct a meta-analysis on the relationship between resource and energy supply and biodiversity patterns in microbes, plants and animals, in both aquatic and terrestrial systems and at multiple spatial scales. For each case, the researcher will use a newly developed set of tools to dissect controls of species richness into its component parts, including changes in the numbers of individuals, changes in the relative abundances of common and rare species, and changes in the spatial distribution of individuals.

#### **Requirements / expected profile:**

- Master or Diploma in biodiversity, ecology or related field
- Experience in ecological modelling and statistics, especially in R
- Experience in meta-analysis and databases is desirable
- Ability to work along, and as part of a team
- Fluent in English with excellent communication skills

We offer you a three-year PhD position at the **Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, affiliated to the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig**. The project is supervised by Prof. Jonathan Chase (leader of the Biodiversity Synthesis group; [https://www.idiv.de/en/groups\\_and\\_people/core\\_groups/synthesis.html](https://www.idiv.de/en/groups_and_people/core_groups/synthesis.html)).

**Applications** are accepted until **May 17, 2017**.

#### **All applications should include:**

- Cover letter (in English) describing motivation, research interests & relevant experience
- Curriculum vitae in tabular form
- One letter of recommendation
- Contact information of former professor(s)/ who know the applicant
- MA/BA/Diploma certificates
- A copy of the Master’s thesis.

Applications are preferred via our application portal under [apply.idiv.de](http://apply.idiv.de). **Hard copy applications can be sent to German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig; Dr. Mari Bieri; Deutscher Platz 5e; 04103 Leipzig**. Applicants can apply for up to three positions, with tailored motivation letter for each position. Please mention reference file numbers 4-3982/17-D when applying. Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. Selected candidates will be invited to the **joint recruitment symposium on June 22-23, 2017**. For queries on the application process, please contact [ydiv@idiv.de](mailto:ydiv@idiv.de).