

## External Announcement of PhD position Reg.-No. 5-7131/22-D

At the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Natural Sciences Faculty I, Institute of Biology, in the group General Zoology starting on 01.10.2022 we have a 3 year position for a

### Scientific Co-Worker (PhD position) (m-f-d)

The salary is according to national norms i.e. 13 TV-L (65%).

#### Project tasks:

We are looking for a research associate (PhD candidate) for a research project on gene expression and its regulation associated with the gain and subsequent loss of eusociality in halictid bees. The successful candidate will join the dynamic and diverse research group of Prof. Robert Paxton ([http://www.zoologie.uni-halle.de/allgemeine\\_zoologie/research/](http://www.zoologie.uni-halle.de/allgemeine_zoologie/research/)) and work under the supervision of Dr. Antonella Soro ([https://www.zoologie.uni-halle.de/allgemeine\\_zoologie/staff/antonella\\_soro/](https://www.zoologie.uni-halle.de/allgemeine_zoologie/staff/antonella_soro/)). This project is one of several projects focusing on genetic innovations in insects, which will be carried out across Germany as part of the DFG funded Priority Programme GEvol (<http://www.g-evol.com>). The main aim of "the DFG funded Priority Programme GEvol is to collaboratively and interdisciplinarily exploit new computational and OMICS methods to reveal the history of genomes in the insect taxon by comparative genomics.". Being part of this priority program will offer the successful candidate excellent opportunities for networking with leading institutes in evolutionary biology in Germany and abroad and for direct collaboration with Dr. Eckart Stolle (Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change, Bonn) and Dr. Mark Harrison (University of Münster). The position is for 3 years (salary scale TV-L 13, 65%), with a preferred starting date of October 2022. The research project includes fieldwork in Germany, UK and USA as well as the use of multi-OMICS techniques (RNA-Seq and ATAC-Seq) and their corresponding computational approaches. A strong interest in fundamental evolutionary questions such as the evolution of eusociality and knowledge of basic molecular techniques are essential. Furthermore, we anticipate the candidate to be engaged in the preparation of publications as well as the supervision of BSc and MSc students.

#### Requirements:

- BSc/MSc in Biology or related subject
- Knowledge of wild bee biology is an advantage
- Solid understanding of molecular biology
- Experience in designing and carrying our experiments with insects in the field
- Basic bioinformatic skills. Familiarity with computer languages (R, Python, bash) and Linux environment is an advantage
- Excellent skills in speaking and writing in English
- Good quantitative skills as well as social competence when working in a group
- Possession of a driving licence is an advantage

Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preference in the case of equal suitability and ability. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German university must submit a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen, <https://www.kmk.org/zab/central-office-for-foreign-education>) as proof of equivalence.

For questions, contact Dr. Antonella Soro, Tel.: +49-345 55-26504, E-Mail: [antonella.soro@zoologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:antonella.soro@zoologie.uni-halle.de).



Please send your application, quoting the reg. no. 5-7131/22-D with the usual documents (a CV, a digital copy of MSc/Diploma certificates and transcript of records) by 25.07.2022 to Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Faculty of Natural Sciences I, Institute of Biology, Department of Zoology, 06099 Halle (Saale), Germany, better if per email ([antonella.soro@zoologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:antonella.soro@zoologie.uni-halle.de)) as a single PDF file.

The call for applications is subject to possible budgetary restrictions.

Application costs will not be reimbursed by Martin Luther University. Application documents will only be returned if a stamped envelope is enclosed.