

Job Announcement ref. #12-20028

The Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN) is a member of the Leibniz Association and is based in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. LOEWE Centre for Translational Biodiversity Genomics (LOEWE-TBG) is a joint venture of the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN), Goethe-University Frankfurt, Justus-Liebig-University Giessen and Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology IME. LOEWE-TBG aims to intensify biodiversity genomics in basic and applied research.

For the research project "PHYTOARK: Predicting the future from signatures of the past: using living sediment archives and ancient DNA to understand responses of marine primary producers to environmental changes" the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung and LOEWE-TBG invite applications for a

PhD candidate (m/f/d) in Ancient Community Dynamics of Phytoplankton (36 months, TV-H E13, 65% position)

PHYTOARK is a project funded by the Leibniz Association within the "Kooperative Exzellenz" Program of the Leibniz Competition 2021. This interdisciplinary collaborative project looks into the Holocene history of the Baltic Sea to investigate past patterns of phytoplankton biodiversity change on the levels of communities and populations. It integrates this change with Holocene and Anthropocene climate warming. The results are used in ecosystem models for the assessment and prediction of ecosystem functioning under global change.

The project is carried out by a network of German and international partners. Network partners within Germany are located at the Institute of Baltic Sea Research Warnemuende (IOW), Senckenberg Research Institute (SGN), University of Hamburg and University of Konstanz. This PhD project will investigate phytoplankton community dynamics and biodiversity patterns through the Holocene history of the Baltic Sea.

Your tasks

- assist sediment core subsampling for ancient environmental DNA
- perform laboratory and bioinformatic analyses on ancient eDNA and the resulting sequence data
- compare eDNA-based community composition with phytoplankton paleoproxies
- evaluate temporal dynamics in reconstructed community composition, structure and function
- interact with network partners on data generation and integration
- present results in peer-reviewed journals, and national and international conferences
- contribute to project administration

Your profile

- Completed Master's degree in Environmental Sciences, Ecology and Evolution, or equivalent
- Experience and/or strong interest in molecular lab work, high throughput sequence data, bioinformatics, analysis of ecological data and ecological modeling (in R)
- Ability to effectively communicate and organize workflows, and to closely collaborate in teams
- Fluency in English as working language, and excellent writing skills

What is awaiting you?

- an interesting task in an international research project
- The possibility to build your scientific network at an international level, work in a cohort of PhD students, enjoy access to infrastructure, workshops, and expertise
- Access to the graduate program GRADE at Goethe University Frankfurt (https://www.goethe-university-frankfurt.de/54290205/Your_path_to_a_PhD?)
- A workplace close to the city center of Frankfurt a lively and diverse city with high life quality
- Flexible working hours; Senckenberg badge for free entry in museums in Frankfurt; a family-conscious personnel policy; discounted local transport ticket

Salary and benefits are in accordance with a public service position in Germany (collective agreement TV-H E13 with 65% of the regular working hours, i.e. 26 hours/week). The position will ideally start on April 1st 2020 and it is limited to three years. The Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (SBiK-F) supports equal opportunity of men and women and therefore strongly invites women to apply. Equally qualified handicapped applicants will be given preference.

The primary place of work is in Frankfurt am Main at the Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (SBiK-F). An extended stay is expected at the University of Jyväskylä (Finland). Research stays in the labs of the German network partners are desired. The employer is the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung.

We look forward to your application!

Please send your application, mentioning the reference of this job offer (ref. **#12-20028**) by **January 10th, 2021** by email (attachment in a single pdf document) and including a cover letter describing your suitability and motivation, a detailed CV, your credentials and certificates, contact details of two potential references to:

Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung
Senckenberganlage 25
60325 Frankfurt

E-Mail: recruiting@senckenberg.de



For scientific enquiries please get in contact with Prof. Dr. Miklós Bálint, via e-mail: miklos.balint@senckenberg.de