The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig is a National Research Centre 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). For more information please visit: www.idiv.de.

Molecular Interaction Ecology (MIE) is one of the experimental research groups at iDiv. The mission of MIE is to unravel the molecular and chemical mechanisms governing interactions between plants and their biotic and abiotic environment. These mechanisms are studied using an integrated ecogenomic approach in which metabolomics and transcriptomics analyses are combined with measures of plant and herbivore performance. The ultimate goal is to understand the role of plant-based mechanisms in the establishment of aboveground and belowground biodiversity in natural communities. Together with Prof Alexandra Weigelt (University of Leipzig) and her PhD student, our group participates in a project entitled “Chemical and morphological traits as mediators of biotic interactions along plant diversity gradients” in the “Jena Experiment”. In this project, we will analyze the chemical composition of plant roots and shoots exposed to different levels of plant diversity.

Friedrich Schiller University Jena seeks to fill the following position at iDiv with workplace in Leipzig and Bad Lauchstädt at the earliest possible date, if possible from 1st August 2020, onwards:

Technical Assistant (f/m/d) „Plant chemical analysis“
limited to 3 years, full-time employment
Salary: up to Entgelgruppe 9 TV-L, if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled

The FSU Jena seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply. Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability.

Job description:
• Support with experiments and sampling in the Jena Experiment or the “Ecotrons” in Bad Lauchstädt
• Processing and extraction of samples and analysis of extracts on analytical platforms at iDiv and University of Leipzig
• Processing of raw chemical data for statistical analyses
• Implementation and optimization of extraction protocols for chemical analyses
• Transfer of practical knowledge to students and other project participants
• Supervision of the student assistants in the laboratory

Requirements:
• Apprenticeship as biological-technical assistant with official recognition or equivalent qualification
• Experience with LC-(qToF)-MS and/or NIR spectroscopy or similar analytical platforms
• Experience in implementing and optimizing extraction methods based on literature protocols
• Experience in conducting experiments from experimental design to chemical analysis
• Experience in processing scientific data
• Flexibility and good organizational skills
• Responsible personality with excellent communication skills
• Excellent written and spoken English language skills
• In possession of a European B driving license or an exchangeable equivalent

We offer:
• Work in a dynamic, international and interdisciplinary environment
• Diverse training opportunities
• Attractive benefits, e.g. contributions to capital formation, job-ticket for public transport, company pension scheme (VBL)
• Family-friendly working environment with flexible working hours
We offer you a TA position, affiliated with the University of Jena and supervised by Prof. Dr. Nicole van Dam and her team. Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 145/2020, via our application portal at https://apply.idiv.de. While we prefer applications via this portal, hard-copy applications may also be sent to:

German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (Halle-Jena-Leipzig)
Prof. Dr. Nicole van Dam
Deutscher Platz 5e, D-04103 Leipzig

Submission deadline is 26th June 2020. All applications should include a letter of motivation (in English or German), curriculum vitae, names and addresses of two references (including e-mail address and telephone numbers) and copies of relevant certificates.

For inquiries on the application process or more information on this position please contact Prof. Dr. Nicole van Dam at nicole.vandam@idiv.de or telephone number 0341/97 13365.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.

Please note that applying via email is not entirely secure under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility. Please consider our application information: http://www.uni-jena.de/stellenmarkt_hinweis.html. Please also note the information on the collection of personal data on: www.uni-jena.de/Universitaet/Stellenmarkt/Datenschutzhinweis.