

## External Job Announcement Reg.-Nr. 5-5672/22-D

At the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Natural Sciences Faculty I, Institute of Biology, the General Zoology group offers a 3 years position (65%) starting on the 01.09.2022 for a

### Doctoral Researcher (m-f-d)

on the project "A comparative population genomic approach to address the effects of habitat loss and fragmentation on South American *Centris* oil-bees"

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

The project: Landscape fragmentation and habitat loss are among the major threats to global bee diversity. However, it is still not well understood if certain functional traits render some bee species more vulnerable to environmental change than others. We seek a highly motivated PhD student to investigate whether South American oil bees of the genus *Centris* that vary in functional traits also differ in their population genomic response to fragmentation and habitat loss. Moreover, the PhD student will study the effects of such habitat disturbances on *Centris* bee- oil plant-interactions as well as on the ecosystem service of pollination. This will allow to link habitat disturbance, population genomics, ecologically relevant traits, species interactions and ecosystem services (pollination). The research work includes large scale sampling of bees in Brazil (3-4 months), whole genome sequencing to generate single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) data, landscape genomics, building plant-pollinator networks and conducting pollination experiments. The selected PhD candidate will work in an ambitious international research team with modern lab facilities.

#### Requirements:

- MSc/Diploma in Biology or related subject
- Knowledge on population genetics/genomics and SNP data
- Field work experience (especially in collecting insects)
- Knowledge on wild bee biology, using GIS, R and Linux is an advantage but not mandatory
- Experience in speaking and writing in English
- Knowledge of German and Portuguese is an advantage but not mandatory
- Driving license (class B)
- Willingness to work under potentially uncomfortable field conditions
- Team-oriented and strong organizational skills

Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German university must submit a certificate assessment for foreign university qualifications (Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications) from the Central Office for Foreign Education (<https://www.kmk.org/zab/central-office-for-foreign-education>). This can be submitted later when invited for the interview.

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg gives priority to applications from severely disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

#### All applications should include the following:

- Cover letter in English or German describing your motivation, research interests and relevant experience
- Curriculum vitae including names and contact details of two scientific references
- Digital copy of MSc/Diploma certificates and transcript of records

Kindly send your application in electronic form as a single PDF file, quoting the reference number 5-5672/22-D to Dr. B. Kahnt (E-Mail: [belinda.kahnt@zoologie.uni-halle.de](mailto:belinda.kahnt@zoologie.uni-halle.de)). Submission deadline is 27/06/2022. For queries



concerning the application process and for project-related questions also contact Dr. B. Kahnt per mail or phone (0049 345 55-26502).

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions.

Selected candidates will be invited to an online interview.