Job advertisement
Vacancy ID: 217/2023
Closing date: 31.08.2023

Friedrich Schiller University is a traditional university with a strong research profile rooted in the heart of Germany. As a university covering all disciplines, it offers a wide range of subjects. Its research is focused on the areas Light—Life—Liberty. It is closely networked with non-research institutions, research companies and renowned cultural institutions. With around 18,000 students and more than 8,600 employees, the university plays a major role in shaping Jena’s character as a cosmopolitan and future-oriented city.

The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig seeks to fill the position of a

Scientific Employee on the iDiv Flexpool Project: “Relating community assembly to ecosystem functioning (CAFE) across trophic levels in space and time”

commencing on 1 January 2024 or at the earliest opportunity thereafter and limited to 31 December 2025. The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions and dependent upon final approval of funding.

This is a full-time position with 40 hours per week; place of work is the Population Ecology Group at the Institute of Ecology and Evolution, FSU Jena.

Background:

The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig is a National Research Centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. It is 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.

Biodiversity-Ecosystem-Functioning (BEF) experiments and observational studies have shown that invertebrate consumer biomass varies in space and time, but it is largely unexplored to what extent these changes depend on consumer species identity or changes in their diversity. By applying a novel partitioning approach on data from an BEF experiment (Jena Experiment) and an observational study (Biodiversity Exploratories), this project aims to understand how a change in consumer diversity affects ecosystem functioning. Specifically, we will evaluate how consumer species richness, species identity and species traits influence consumer biomass in time and space. The project will be conducted in collaboration with researchers from the three iDiv institutions and the TU Darmstadt: PD Anne Ebeling at the FSU Jena, Dr. Jes Hines Leipzig University, Dr. Emma Ladouceur MLU Halle, PD Christiane Roscher and Prof. Oliver Schweiger Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) Leipzig, Dr. Michael Staab TU Darmstadt.

Your responsibilities:

- Data analysis of long-term dataset
- Preparation of project-relevant manuscripts
- Writing of scientific publications
- Presentation of scientific results at national and international conferences and local conferences
Your profile:

- Scientific University degree (Diploma/ M.Sc.) in biology, preferentially ecology, a doctoral degree is desirable
- At least three years of experience in research and in the publication of scientific results
- Expertise and experience in the field of plant-consumer interactions, community ecology and/or experimental biodiversity research
- Advanced skills in statistical programming and data analyses
- Interest and ability in preparing high-impact manuscripts for international journals
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Team-oriented with interest and ability in interdisciplinary research and organizational skills

We offer:

- Work in a dynamic, international, and interdisciplinary environment in the beautiful city of Jena
- Opportunities to develop and advance scientific networks
- Flexible working hours and a family-friendly working environment
- Participation in our iDiv career support programme
- Attractive fringe benefits, e.g. capital formation benefits (VL), Job Ticket (benefits for public transport), and an occupational pension (VBL)
- Remuneration based on the provisions of the Collective Agreement for the Public Sector of the Federal States (TV-L) at salary scale E13—depending on the candidate’s personal qualifications—, including a special annual payment in accordance with the collective agreement.
- 30 days of vacation per calendar year plus two days off on December 24 and 31

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to flexpool@idiv.de, for project-related questions, please contact PD Dr. Anne Ebeling (anne.ebeling@uni-jena.de).

All applications should include:

- Cover letter describing the motivation for the project, research interests, and relevant experience
- Complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- Digital copy of master and PhD certificate or equivalent

Candidates with severe disabilities will be given preference in the case of equal qualifications and suitability.

Are you eager to work with us? Kindly send your application, quoting the vacancy ID 217/2023, via our application portal at https://apply.idiv.de by 31 August 2023. 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), Scientific Networks, Puschstr. 4, 04103 Leipzig.

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.

For further information for applicants and the information on the collection of personal data, please refer to https://www.uni-jena.de/en/job-market