

## External Job Advertisement Reg.-Nr. 5-6344/24-D

Modern, interconnected, conscious of tradition: Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) is the oldest and largest university in the State of Saxony-Anhalt with a history dating back more than 500 years. Today more than 20,000 students are enrolled at the university. MLU's core research areas are in the nanosciences and bio- sciences, the Enlightenment, as well as in social and cultural research. The university is also home to a range of small disciplines, some of which can be found nowhere else in Germany. The university has excellent national and international ties, and works closely together with leading research institutes, industry, and more than 250 universities around the world

Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), Faculty of Natural Sciences I, Institute of Biology (Geobotany) offers the following position:

### Doctoral Researcher (m/f/x)

limited to 3 years, 65 per cent of full-time employment, starting on 1 October 2024. The salary conforms to the regulations of pay group 13 TV-L depending on the nature of the assigned tasks as well as the candidate's individual qualifications.

#### Tasks:

- Cultivation of plants (grasses, herbs, trees) from seeds collected in various global change experiments under sterile conditions
- Collection of root, leaf and seed samples from trees in various global change experiments in Germany, Italy and Canada (IDENT network)
- Molecular work to identify the fungal, bacterial and protist phytomicrobiome using nanopore sequencing and subsequent bioinformatic processing of the data
- Statistical analysis of the impact of plant species diversity and drivers of global change on the phytomicrobiome
- Participation in the yDiv graduate school program. There is also close collaboration with the DFG-funded International Research Training Group GRK 2324 "TreeDi - Tree Diversity Interactions: The role of tree-tree interactions in local neighborhoods in Chinese subtropical forests" ([www.treediversity.de](http://www.treediversity.de)) and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig
- Independent writing of first-author publications
- Presentation of results in form of posters and/or talks at international conferences
- Involvement in teaching and co-supervision of students is possible

The possibility of further scientific qualification is given.

#### Requirements:

- University degree (Diploma/M.Sc.) in a project-related subject (e.g. ecology, biodiversity, environmental sciences)
- Very good knowledge of forest ecology and biodiversity research
- Experience in microbiology and next-generation sequencing/nanopore sequencing is an advantage
- Good quantitative and statistical skills in R are essential, experience in bioinformatics is an advantage



- Fluent in English (in written and oral form)
- Clear drive to work scientifically
- Motivation to be a proactive team player in an international research team
- Flexibility and good organizational skills, hands-on mentality
- Willingness to spend time (approx. 2-4 months per year) in Italy and Canada for field work, lab visits and courses
- Willingness to work under harsh field conditions (heat, ticks, mosquitoes...); field experience is an advantage

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

Queries concerning the application process and project-related questions should be directed to Dr. Peter Dietrich, [peter.dietrich@botanik.uni-halle.de](mailto:peter.dietrich@botanik.uni-halle.de).

**All applications should include:**

- Cover letter in English (or German) shortly describing the motivation for the project, research interests and relevant experience
- Complete curriculum vitae including contact details of two referees
- Digital copy of Master's/Bachelor's/Diploma degree certificates
- All documents should be submitted as one single pdf file

Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 5.6344/24-D to Dr. Peter Dietrich ([peter.dietrich@botanik.uni-halle.de](mailto:peter.dietrich@botanik.uni-halle.de)). The submission deadline is 12th of August 2024.

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions. Application portfolios will not be returned, and application costs cannot be reimbursed.