

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.

Doctoral Researcher (f/m/d)

on the flexpool project “Traversing the canopy – how do transport processes of microbes and matter shape phyllosphere microbial communities?”

initially limited until 30 September 2021,

extension for 2-3 further years possible and dependent upon successful renewal of DFG funding for iDiv
(evaluation in spring 2021)

65 percent of a full-time position

Salary: up to *Entgeltgruppe 13 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.

Background

The project aims at understanding key controls of microbial diversity in forest tree canopies. We are seeking applicants who are interested in working in an interdisciplinary project integrating aspects of microbial ecology, geochemistry, and plant functional ecology with a strong integration of field work. The doctoral researcher will tackle the question how transport processes of microbes and nutrients within tree canopies, mediated by throughfall and stemflow, shape phyllosphere and cortisphere microbial communities. In addition, the project will look into how these relationships are modulated by phenology-driven changes of the plant host. The project is supervised by Dr. Martina Herrmann (Institute of Biodiversity) and Prof. Dr. Beate Michalzik (Institute of Geography) and will be carried out in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Christian Wirth (Leipzig University). Place of work is Jena.

Job description:

- Regular sampling of leaves and bark, throughfall and stemflow within tree canopies at the Leipzig Canopy Crane facility
- Analysis of microbial communities of phyllosphere, cortisphere, throughfall and stemflow using molecular approaches/amplicon sequencing
- Preparation of water samples for chemical analysis using ICP-OES, TOC-VCPN/TNM, and HPLC, and data analysis
- Characterization of phyllosphere and cortisphere microhabitat conditions by chemical analysis and electron microscopy
- Writing and publishing scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals
- Presenting results at national and international conferences

Requirements:

- M.Sc. or equivalent degree in a project-related field (e.g. microbiology, ecology, environmental sciences, biogeosciences)
- Expertise and experience in methods of molecular microbial ecology
- Strong statistical skills (e. g., in R)
- Interest and ability in interdisciplinary research and field work
- Ability to work in 30 m height in a gondola attached to a crane at the canopy crane facility
- Driving licence would be advantageous
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Team-oriented and strong organizational skills

Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 344/2020, 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)

Dr. Christa Genz

Puschstraße 4, D-04103 Leipzig

Submission deadline is 22. November 2020. Selected candidates will be invited to give a short presentation and a personal interview with the project leaders.

All applications should include:

- Cover letter describing 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 certificate or equivalent

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to Mrs. Christa Genz (christa.genz@idiv.de), for project-related questions, please contact Dr. Martina Herrmann (martina.herrmann@uni-jena.de).

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/Universität/Stellenmarkt/Datenschutzhinweis