

The Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN) is a member of the Leibniz Association and is headquartered in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. SGN conducts natural history research with almost 800 employees and research institutions in six federal states. Within SGN, the Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F) explores the interactions between biodiversity, climate, and society.

Senckenberg BiK-F invites applications for a PhD position in the research project "Protea networks in time and space: resource-driven dynamics of interacting plant, pollinator and seed predator communities in South African Fynbos (ProteaNet)". This project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and is carried out in close collaboration with Prof. Frank Schurr (University of Hohenheim). Here, we invite applications for a

PhD position (Ref.# 7.4.16) in "Temporal dynamics of plant-animal interaction networks"

The successful applicant will investigate the temporal dynamics of mutualistic and antagonistic plant-animal interaction networks. He/she will examine how resources provided by plants affect communities of animal seed predators and pollinators (insects and birds). The project combines experimental and observational field studies with advanced statistical techniques, e.g. analyses of functional trait diversity and interaction networks. It builds on a previous project on spatial plant-animal interactions (ProteaBird) and provides a unique opportunity for elucidating the coupled community dynamics of plants and animals. The project will be conducted in close cooperation with another PhD student (University of Hohenheim) and researchers at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (Profs. Karen Esler and Anton Pauw). We encourage the participation in graduate courses at the Goethe Graduate Academy (GRADE).

Position requirements

- An excellent Master degree (or equivalent) in Ecology or a related field
- A strong interest in community ecology, preferably with a background in plant-animal interactions and animal taxonomy (insects, birds)
- Experience in conducting ecological field work; the position involves extended periods of field work in South Africa (ca. 12 months in total)
- Good knowledge of statistical data analysis (preferably with R)
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English (knowledge of German is not mandatory)
- Ambition to publish in international journals

Salary and benefits are according to a public service position in Germany (TV-H E 13, 65%). The position will be for 3 years starting between October and December 2016. The Senckenberg Research Institute supports equal opportunity of men and women and therefore strongly invites women to apply. Equally qualified handicapped applicants will be given preference. The place of employment will be Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The employer is the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung.

Please submit your application before **5 June 2016** via e-mail as a single PDF file to:

Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung
Senckenberganlage 25
60325 Frankfurt
E-Mail: recruiting@senckenberg.de



Please include the reference to this position (Ref.#7.4.16) in the subject line and include a 1-page cover letter describing your motivation to apply, a CV including relevant certificates, a 1-page summary of your Master thesis and contact details of 2 potential referees.

For scientific enquiries please contact PD Dr. Matthias Schleuning via email:
matthias.schleuning@senckenberg.de



The Institute of Landscape and Plant Ecology at the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart (Germany) invites applications for a PhD position in research project "Protea networks in time and space: resource-driven dynamics of interacting plant, pollinator and seed predator communities in South African Fynbos (ProteaNet)". This project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and is carried out in close collaboration with PD Dr. Matthias Schleuning (Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre). The project comprises 2 PhD positions. Here, we invite applications for

**1 PhD position on
"Plant life histories and biotic interactions in species-rich communities".**

The successful applicant will investigate how the allocation of resources by plants shapes life history variation within and between plant species, and how allocation decisions of individual plants determine their interactions with other plants, mutualistic pollinators and antagonistic seed predators. The project combines experimental and observational field studies with advanced statistical analyses. It builds on a previous project on spatial plant-animal interactions (ProteaBird) and provides a unique opportunity for elucidating the links between life history evolution and community dynamics in a global biodiversity hotspot. The project will be conducted in cooperation with researchers at the Universities of Stellenbosch, South Africa (Profs. Karen Esler and Anton Pauw), Montpellier, France (Dr. Ophélie Ronce, Prof. Agnès Mignot) and Lausanne, Switzerland (Dr. Jeanne Tonnabel).

Position requirements

- An excellent Master degree (or equivalent) in Ecology or a related field
- A strong interest in community and evolutionary ecology
- Experience with ecological experiments and/or field work; the position involves extended periods of field work in South Africa (ca. 12 months in total)
- Good knowledge of statistical data analysis (preferably with R)
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English (knowledge of German is not mandatory)
- Ambition to publish in international journals

Benefits

We offer a position in a young and dynamic international research group. Using a broad methodological spectrum, our group aims to better understand and forecast biodiversity dynamics under global change (see <https://ecology.uni-hohenheim.de/67896?&L=1>). The University of Hohenheim is located on a beautiful campus situated in the Southern German city of Stuttgart, which offers a rich cultural life and attractive surroundings (Swabian Alb, Black Forest).

The position is available for three years, starting between October and December 2016. Salary and benefits are based on a German public service position (TV-L E13, 65%, for further information see <http://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/tv-l/west>). The University of Hohenheim seeks to increase the proportion of women in research and strongly encourages women to apply. Given equal qualifications, preference will be given to candidates with disabilities. The place of employment will be Stuttgart, Germany.

Application

Applications and inquiries should be sent via e-mail to Prof Dr. Frank Schurr
frank.schurr@uni-hohenheim.de

Please submit your application as a single PDF file. This file should contain a 1-page cover letter describing your motivation to apply, a CV including relevant certificates, a 1-page summary of your Master thesis and contact details of 2 potential referees. The application deadline is **5 June 2016**.