Full time 2-year postdoc position in biodiversity science and macroecology

I offer a 2-year full-time postdoctoral position in macroecology, ecological statistics, biogeography, and biodiversity science. The candidate will join my new team (Dr. Petr Keil, https://petrkeil.github.io/website/) at the Department of Applied Geography and Spatial Planning at the Faculty of Environmental Sciences of Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic.

The postdoctoral project will be related to biodiversity and its patterns in space and time, and across spatial scales. The position is thematically flexible, we will negotiate a topic that reflects the candidate’s interest and expertise. My current priority is to investigate how biodiversity (and its various facets) changes in time, which includes extinctions and invasions, their spatial and temporal scaling, and drivers of the change. The preliminary focus is on terrestrial taxa (plants, vertebrates, insects), but topics involving freshwater, marine, or microbial taxa can be considered. Elements of evolutionary biology, historical biogeography, or applied conservation issues are also attractive, and particularly welcome is an ability to cross discipline boundaries. Overall, I value originality, independence, and initiative, and I strongly encourage applicants to propose a research topic. Work done in my lab will be primarily computational, with emphasis on statistical modelling and simulations (in R, Python, or similar) and geographic information systems (GIS). However, I am open to ideas for experiments and fieldwork.

Apart from dissemination of scientific results via high-quality journal publications and conference presentations, I expect the postdoc to participate on workshops and training related to the project, and to assist with teaching or organization of workshops.

Requirements

- PhD in ecology, geography, bioinformatics, biostatistics, zoology, botany, environmental sciences, or related field.
- Proven ability to publish in peer-reviewed journals.
- Experience with spatial/geographical data.
- Computational background and the ability to program statistical analyses and simulations in R, Python, or similar environment.
• I welcome applicants of all backgrounds, cultures, genders, ages, or countries. I believe that a diverse team will broaden perspective and enhance creativity.
We offer

- Salary of ca 1980 EUR/month gross (ca **1450-1650 EUR/month net**, depending on family situation and other circumstances). Note that the average salary in the Czech Republic in 2019 was ca 1350 EUR/month gross, median was ca 1153 EUR/month gross, and living costs are generally lower than in Western Europe.
- Bonus payments for high-quality publications.
- Medical insurance is a standard part of the employment contract.
- Resources for travel to conferences or workshops abroad. Well equipped labs and state of the art scientific equipment, software, access to journals and scientific databases.
- International working environment (the working language is English), green spacious campus in Suchdol in the outskirts of Prague, 30 min to Prague city center by public transportation.
- Earliest starting date is September 2020; later starting dates can be negotiated.

Applications

To apply, please send me by email (petr.keil@idiv.de), in a single .pdf (less than 10 MB):

- Motivation letter, including your ideas about what you'd like to work on and where do you see you and your research in the future.
- Your CV including your publications and any other relevant outputs (code repositories, reports, your personal website, …).
- A letter of recommendation from your former advisor/professor and contact details of 2 other scientific referees.

Review of applications will begin on **1 April 2020**, and will continue until the position is filled.