

PhD position, 75% TV-L E13  
LMU Munich, Faculty of Biology, Zoology  
Starting date: 01 May 2023  
End of application: 10 March 2023

**Doctoral position (f/m/x) – Giants and dwarves: reconstructing the evolution of body size and life cycles in Myriapoda**

We are seeking a highly motivated PhD student to take part in the investigation of the evolutionary history of the group Myriapoda, including extant representatives, fossils preserved in amber, but also Palaeozoic fossils “in stone”. The project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

The project is based on an interdisciplinary approach, in which developmental data of extant and fossil species are incorporated into an evolutionary framework, shortly referred to as palaeo-evo-devo. The major database is provided by morphological investigations of extant and fossil specimens with modern imaging methods. Data are interpreted in a strict phylogenetic framework.

Focus of research is on two aspects: 1) Size evolution of bristly millipedes, especially of their immature stages. The amber record of bristly millipede immatures is especially rich and covers a time span of more than 100 million years. 2) Morphological comparison between bristly millipedes and the giant Palaeozoic animals of the group *Arthropleura*. Specimens will be provided via scientific collections, fieldwork is not considered. Techniques to be applied are various imaging methods (digital microscopy, super-macro-photography,  $\mu$ CT-scanning and other up-to-date methods)

The prospective PhD student does not necessarily need to have experience with the imaging methods or specific systematic groups, but is expected to gain expertise early in the course of the project. The project includes a distinct amount of traveling to collections in Germany and abroad. The results of the project are expected to be presented regularly at national and international conferences by the prospective PhD student as well as published in peer-reviewed journals.

We are especially seeking for a good team worker being able to cooperate closely with people in the workgroup and national and international colleagues of a wide network.

The successful candidate will be based in the workgroup of Zoomorphology at the campus Martinsried (part of municipality Planegg) south-west of Munich, in close proximity to Munich. Child care facilities as well as schools are nearby. The project is a conjoined one with the Zoological State Collection Munich (ZSM), regular visits and work in the collections and imaging facilities there are part of the project.

**We offer:** DFG-funded PhD position (75%) for 36 months; interdisciplinary research project and working environment; modern imaging equipment (macro- and microscopic)

**We expect:** MSc (or equivalent) in Biology or Palaeobiology; good English communication skills (oral and written); ability to work in teams; high motivation; keen interest in zoological evolutionary questions

The position is limited to 36 months with a presumed starting date of May 01, 2023.

Applications of women are strongly encouraged. Severely challenged persons will be given preference in case of otherwise equal qualifications.

Please send your application to [jhaug@bio.lmu.de](mailto:jhaug@bio.lmu.de) until March 10, 2023. The application should include CV, transcript of records, letter of motivation and the names and contact details of two potential referees.

For further information contact:

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