



Job vacancy

Research Assistant - Zoological Institute and Museum 23/Wi12

University of Greifswald, 26 June 2023 | deadline: 20 July 2023

At the University of Greifswald's **Zoological Institute and Museum**, WG Applied Zoology and Conservation in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, there is a job vacancy **for earliest possible appointment**, subject to budgetary regulations, for a part-time (65 %)

Research Assistant.

The fixed term contract is for a period of **three years**. Payment will be made according to pay group 13 *TV-L Wissenschaft*.

The Chair of Applied Zoology and Conservation investigates basic and applied scientific questions on the biology and conservation of native bat species. Embedded in the new "BatTrend" project, innovative methods for monitoring German bat populations are to be developed with the aim of improving the protection of bat population. The project announced here will focus on two monitoring methods: passive (automatic) acoustic monitoring and environmental DNA (eDNA). Both methods involve fieldwork (sampling) at different sites in Germany with bat communities on which good amounts of data has already been recorded to validate the methods in different contexts together with other team members.

Acoustics: This sub-project will develop automated pipelines to extract relevant activity data from continuous acoustic recordings. The aim is to evaluate the applicability of long-term passive acoustic monitoring to track population dynamics. This work is carried out at the University of Greifswald at the Chair of Applied Zoology and Conservation in close collaboration with other team members.

eDNA: This sub-project will investigate the feasibility and suitability of eDNA from a variety of substrates, including air filters, leaf swabs and insect-derived DNA, to monitor bat populations. This work involves laboratory work and bioinformatic analyses at the Helmholtz Institute for One Health (HIOH) in Greifswald. The HIOH labs are equipped with state-of-the-art equipment that will allow many aspects of the planned eDNA workflow to be automated.

Work Tasks:

- Data acquisition in the field
- Processing of acoustic data
- Laboratory work (e.g. DNA/RNA isolation, sequencing)
- Analysis of data and writing of publications (PhD)

Job requirements:

- Advanced university degree with a successfully completed Master's degree (or equivalent) in zoology, evolutionary conservation biology, bioinformatics or a related biological discipline.
- Excellent English language skills
- Knowledge of a computer/statistical programming language (e.g. R, Python, Matlab, Julia)
- Valid driving licence
- Experience in teamwork during fieldwork and knowledge of German are an advantage

We seek a candidate with experience in one or more of the following subjects:

- (Automated) analysis of passive acoustic recordings and construction of analysis pipelines
- Analysis (laboratory and data processing) of eDNA or comparable genetic methods (e.g. meta-barcoding, "next generation" sequencing data)
- Research on wild bat populations

For questions on eDNA methods, please contact Dr Jan Gogarten (jan.gogarten@uni-greifswald.de) and for questions on acoustic methods, Dr Jaap van Schaik (vanschaika@uni-greifswald.de). Questions about the overall project can be answered by Prof. Dr. Gerald Kerth (gerald.kerth@uni-greifswald.de).

Further information on the team can be found at:

- <https://zoologie.uni-greifswald.de/struktur/abteilungen/angewandte-zoologie-und-naturschutz/>
- <https://www.helmholtz-hioh.de>

The position is open to all persons, irrespective of gender.

Severely disabled applicants with the same qualifications will be considered with preference.

According to § 68(3) PersVG M-V, the Staff Council will only be involved in staff matters of the academic or artistic staff on request.

Please only submit copies of your application documents as they cannot be returned. Unfortunately, application costs (e.g. travel expenses for interviews) will not be reimbursed by the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

Please note that by submitting your application, you provide your consent pursuant to data protection law for our processing of your application data. Further information about the legal bases and the use of your data can be found [here](#).

Applications with the following documents (cover letter, curriculum vitae, research activities, certificates and list of publications) should be sent by email (one PDF file - max. 5 MB) with reference to the job advertisement number **23/Wi12** by **20 July 2023** to:

Universität Greifswald
Zoologisches Institut und Museum
Herrn Prof. Dr. Gerald Kerth
Loitzer Str. 26
17489 Greifswald

gerald.kerth@uni-greifswald.de

