



Job vacancy

Research Assistant/Doctoral Candidate - Zoological Institute and Museum 24/Wi04

University of Greifswald, 22 January 2024 | deadline: 29 February 2024

At the University of Greifswald's **Zoological Institute and Museum**, Chair of General and Systematic Zoology/AG Vogelwarte, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, there is a job vacancy that is available, subject to budgetary regulations, for next possible appointment for a 50% position as

Research Assistant/Doctoral Candidate.

The contract is limited to **three years**. Payment will be made according to pay group 13 *TV-L Wissenschaft*.

Many animals migrate seasonally in order to find optimal food resources for the different stages of their life history. Such migration is complex behaviour shaped by genetic, social, and environmental aspects, and disentangling the relative importance of these aspects is a key objective of evolutionary biology. European common terns (*Sterna hirundo*) winter along large stretches of the African coast and terns breeding on the northeast German Baltic coast were recently found to use both westerly and easterly flyways to reach these wintering areas (Piro *et al.* 2022 JORN). Blood samples collected from individual birds of known migratory timing and route now provide an ideal opportunity to study the genomic basis of migratory phenotype variation of common terns across the migratory divide. Therefore, we are excited to offer a doctoral project with particular focus on the genetic basis of migration in common terns. The project is based on a cooperation between the University of Greifswald, where the position will be based, and the Institute of Avian Research in Wilhelmshaven, where part of the bioinformatics analyses will be carried out.

The University and Hanseatic Town of Greifswald, located directly on the Baltic Sea coast, offers a wide range of cultural and family-friendly activities, and has the appealing atmosphere of a vibrant student town.

Tasks:

- Providing scientific services in research and teaching
- Molecular biology work
- Management of large data sets from high-throughput sequencing
- Bioinformatic analyses (population genomics, trait mapping)
- Communication of research results (presentations, publications)

The position on offer is aimed at academics wishing to complete a doctorate. Tasks will therefore be transferred that are conducive to the preparation of a doctorate.

Requirements:

- Postgraduate university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in a biological discipline

Desirable:

- Practical experience in molecular biology (e.g. DNA extraction, PCR)
- Experience in bioinformatic analyses including handling high-throughput sequencing data, working in an Unix environment on an HPC cluster, scripting (e.g. unix/bash, Python)
- Willingness to conduct field work
- In-depth understanding of evolutionary biology
- Excellent English language skills
- Ability and willingness to work in a team
- Willingness to carry out parts of the work in Wilhelmshaven

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](#).

Please send your application with all usual documents via email (one pdf file), with reference to the job advertisement number **24/Wi04** by **29 February 2024** to:

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Zoologisches Institut und Museum
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