PhD position (UNIVERSITÄT GÖTTINGEN)
Bewerbungsfrist: 10.07.2018

The DFG-funded Research Training Group 2300 "Enrichment of European beech forests with conifers: impacts of functional traits on ecosystem functioning" at the Georg-August-University Göttingen in Germany, is currently inviting applications for
1 PhD Position in arthropod biodiversity research (65 % E13 TV-L)
beginning on October 1, 2018. The position is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) for 3 years.

The highly interdisciplinary Research Training Group addresses ecosystem functioning of mixed forests. One possibility to meet the challenge of contrasting societal demands in forest management may be to establish mixed forest stands composed of locally occurring native tree species and highly productive tree species growing outside of their native range. Here we focus on European temperate forests. In more detail European beech forests and mixtures of European beech (Fagus sylvatica, native in Europe) and Norway spruce (Picea abies, native in Europe) and European beech and Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii, non-native in Europe) will be studied. It is hypothesized that mixtures of European beech with conifers show higher functional diversity than pure European beech stands, resulting in changing ecosystem functioning.
The Research Training Group offers an aspiring academic environment of joint supervision and a structured study program, consisting of methodologically oriented interdisciplinary research seminars, skills courses, as well as including a career enhancement program for female PhD students. It involves working groups from silviculture and forest botany, plant ecology, soil sciences, animal ecology, zoology and wildlife sciences, forest modelling and spatial and temporal statistics. For more information, please visit www.uni-goettingen.de/en/574316.html.
The advertised position is located in the forest nature conservation group of Prof. Dr. Andreas Schuldt, which will be newly established in October 2018. For further information on Prof. Schuldt please visit https://www.idiv.de/groups_and_people/employees/details/eshow/schuldt_andreas.html.
The subproject within the RTG is entitled 'Arthropod diversity and functioning in mixed versus pure stands'. The goal of this subproject is to analyze the impact of stand structure and tree species composition on the community composition, diversity (taxonomic and functional), and functions (e.g. herbivory and its biological control) of arthropods within and across different forest stand types.
By the time of appointment, the successful candidate will already have completed a very good M.Sc. degree (minimum 2.0 on the German grade scale or equivalent) in ecology, biological sciences, forest sciences, or a related field with skills/knowledge in ecological concepts, arthropod identification, statistics, and ecological fieldwork. Fluency in English is required, as well as the willingness of foreign applicants to learn some German and a driver's license.
The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunities employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply in fields in which they are underrepresented. The university has committed itself to being a family-friendly institution and supports their employees in balancing work and family life. The mission of the University is to employ a greater number of severely disabled persons. Applications from severely disabled persons with equivalent qualifications will be given preference.
To apply for this position, please upload your application via the online application site https://lotus2.gwdg.de/uni/uzdv/perso/knr_100361.nsf
Further application details are available on that webpage. The closing date for applications is **July 10, 2018**.
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