PhD position (UNIVERSITÄT HALLE)
Bewerbungsfrist: 17.02.2019

Job offer: PhD position plant-animal interactions, Martin Luther University Halle

The *Institute of Biology/Geobotany and Botanical Garden*, at Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, invites applications for a postgraduate position within the project "Understanding forest regeneration in bracken-dominated areas of tropical montane forest: a trait-based approach" funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). The position will start 1st of May 2019 and will run for 3 years (TVL E 13, 65%). The position supports scientific qualification through the preparation of a doctoral thesis within the framework of the project.

The successful candidate will work in tropical bracken-dominated montane communities of the Bolivian Andes, and will combine observational and experimental studies in the field of plant-animal interactions. The PhD candidate will assess seed dispersal effectiveness of birds and bats, and the potential value of perches and bat roosts to increase seed dispersal and seedling recruitment. The project will be carried out in close cooperation with Dr. Silvia Gallegos, Institute of Ecology, University of La Paz/Bolivia.

We are looking for a highly qualified and motivated postgraduate fellow who meets the following requirements:

- Excellent Master degree in biology
- Enthusiastic and independent student with a strong interest in the field of plant-animal interactions
- Experience in experimental ecology and in the design and statistical analysis of ecological field experiments
- Experience analyzing ecological data with R
- Deep interest in doing fieldwork in the tropical montane forest of Bolivia
- Driving experience (desirable)
- Work experience abroad
- Fluency in English and working knowledge of Spanish, ambition to publish in international journals
- Qualification goal: PhD

Martin Luther University of Halle aims to increase the number of women in research and teaching. Applications by females are particularly welcome. In addition, persons with disabilities, with appropriate qualifications and aptitudes, will be employed preferentially.

Applications, including a letter of motivation, curriculum vitae, relevant certificates and the name and email address of two references should be sent as one pdf file to isabell.hensen@botanik.uni-halle.de **by February 17th, 2019**.

For more information please contact Prof. Dr. Isabell Hensen, Tel.: 0345-55 26210, E-Mail: isabell.hensen@botanik.uni-halle.de; http://www.botanik.uni-halle.de/pflanzenoekologie/isabell_hensen/