BIOZENTRUM UNIVERSITÄT WÜRZBURG

PhD Position

DNA ANALYTICS CORE FACILITY

in

"Molecular Biodiversity Research and Metagenomics"

starting Summer/Fall 2013.

Background: Our workgroup is interested in biodiversity and community ecology research for systems, where organisms are not easily identifiable or distinguishable from each other. We approach this aspect on a molecular basis, using next-generation sequencing technologies. The applications range from marker-oriented sequencing to whole metagenome studies. In this context we search for a PhD student to conduct such investigations in various different natural systems. The successful candidate will primarily perform laboratory work, i.e. DNA extraction, enrichment and library preparation. Sequencing is performed as far as possible in-house, so that this will also be part of the PhD student's responsibilities. Further, as the second major component, each of the studies comprises analysis of large-scale sequencing data by bioinformatical and ecological means. Field work may accompany the tasks according to the candidates preferences, but is not required.

Location: DNA Analytics Group, Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology, University of Würzburg, Germany

Requirements: Primary requirement is strong interest and motivation in conducting biodiversity research on a metagenomic, molecular level. Further, applicants must have a MSc/Diploma degree, desirably related to one or more of

- Metagenomics
- Communtiy Ecology
- DNA Extraction, PCR and (Next-Generation-) Sequencing
- Phylogenetics/DNA-Barcoding/Bioinformatics
- Molecular Ecology.

They must further be willing to familiarize themselves with the other aforementioned topics during their studies, as well as scientific writing in english language. Understanding and practical knowledge about unixoid command-line usage, perl scripting and statistics is desirable, but not necessary.

Salary and conditions: According to public service positions in Germany (TVL 13: 50%) for three years. We offer membership in a friendly, enthusiastic and ambitious young molecular research work group, as part of a vivid ecological department. Function as a teaching assistant is associated with this position (2.5 SWS). The university is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women, minorities or people with disabilities.

Applications and further information: Please send your application (or inquiries) via eMail to Dr. Alexander Keller (a.keller@biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de) as a single PDF document until 30th April 2013. Screening will begin immediately, but all applications received by this date will receive full consideration. Applications should include a cover letter, a short summary of research interests, CV, complete certificates, and names (incl. email addresses) of two potential referees.