

**Job Market
199/2012**

Leipzig, December 12, 2012

The **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)** is one of the seven National Research Centres funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). It is located in the city of Leipzig and jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the University of Leipzig (UL), and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). It is supported by the Max Planck Society, the Leibniz Association, the Klaus Tschira Foundation and the Free State of Saxony. Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. The concept of iDiv encompasses the detection of biodiversity, understanding its emergence, exploring its consequences for ecosystem functions and services, and developing strategies to safeguard biodiversity under global change.

The University of Leipzig offers as from March 1, 2013 the following position:

Doctoral fellowship

(initially limited to 3 years, 65 percent of a full-time employment)

Salary: Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L

**on "Importance of mutualistic interactions for current and future patterns of
plant and bird diversity in the tropical Andes"**

Embedded in the active research environment of iDiv, the **Young BioDiversity Research Training Group (yDiv)** will be established. Its goal is to educate a new generation of scientists in transdisciplinary biodiversity research, who will have gained expertise both in experimental as well as theoretical fields of research. Fellows will attend lectures and seminars on a broad range of topics in the field of biodiversity science and conduct their research in a modern, international and integrative working environment.

Topic/job description:

- research on mutualistic plant-bird interactions in the tropical Andes
- compilation of a database of functional fruit and bird traits
- modelling of current functional plant and bird diversity
- projections of plant and bird functional diversity under scenario conditions

Requirements / expected profile:

- an excellent master's degree in a relevant field of research
- research interests in the fields of community ecology and macroecology, preferably with a background in tropical ecology and plant-animal interactions
- good use of spoken and written English and ambition to publish in international journals
- work experience abroad, and knowledge of Spanish
- proficiency in advanced statistical methods with R and basic knowledge of GIS
- acquaintance with complex databases and experience in ecological modelling is beneficial
- creativity, enthusiasm and endurance

We offer you a PhD position in the first cohort of yDiv PhD students. All doctoral fellows will study together at iDiv. This position will be affiliated with the University of Leipzig and supervised by Prof. Dr. Isabell Hensen, Geobotany and Botanical Garden, Institute of Biology of the Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg (<http://www.botanik.uni-halle.de>), in collaboration with Dr. Matthias Schleuning, Dr. W. Daniel Kissling, Dr. Ingolf Kühn and Dr. Thorsten Wiegand.

Applications are accepted until **January 18, 2013**. All applications should make reference to the file number 199/2012, include a cover letter of not more than one page describing research interests and relevant experience, curriculum vitae, one letter of recommendation and MA/BA/Diploma certificates.

Applications should be directed to **both**:

University of Leipzig
Faculty for Biosciences, Pharmacy, and Psychology
The Dean Professor Dr. Andrea Robitzki
Brüderstraße 32, 04103 Leipzig, Germany

and in electronic form to Prof. Dr. Isabell Hensen (Isabell.hensen@botanik.uni-halle.de) and the yDiv coordinator Dr. Julia Zimmermann (jula.zimmermann@idiv-biodiversity.de) in a single PDF file with reference file number in the subject line. For **queries** on the application process please contact jula.zimmermann@idiv-biodiversity.de.

Applying via email is questionable under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility.

iDiv and the University of Leipzig are equal opportunity employers.
Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and
will be given preference in the case of equal suitability.