



The Department of Plant Systematics at the University of Bayreuth is offering a PhD position for a period of three years

## PhD position

### **Untangling neutral and adaptive processes in the evolution of species diversity of Andean Apocynaceae**

We are seeking a highly motivated candidate with an interest in flowering plant systematics and evolutionary aspects of species diversity, to join our group at the University of Bayreuth for Plant Systematics (Liede-Schumann lab).

Our research is focused on plant evolution and systematics and we combine long-term experience in Apocynaceae with phylogenetic comparative approaches to reveal the geographic and adaptive processes in the evolution of species diversity. Specifically, we utilize genomic target capture sequencing, herbarium specimen-based morphological analysis and databasing, and occurrence data (GIS) to describe and delineate species, and to estimate their ages, evolutionary relationships, and ecological niches. Phylogenetic comparative methods are used to analyze the tempo and the mode of evolution in Andean Apocynaceae.

The applicant is expected to have a highly qualified Master of Science degree or Diploma in Biology, preferentially in Botany, with a solid background and/or strong interest in plant systematics and evolution. Different educational backgrounds (e.g., evolutionary biology, geocology, or similar adequately related research fields) are possible depending on your interest and motivation. Knowledge and experience with bioinformatics analysis of target capture sequencing (Hyb-Seq) data are beneficial. Prior experience in phylogenetics and phylogenetic comparative methods (e.g., trait evolution models, historical biogeography) is beneficial but not essential. Proficient in scientific English and publishing is expected, and good knowledge of Spanish is an asset.

The University of Bayreuth is an equal opportunities employer and particularly encourages applications from women who are under-represented in the University at this level/ in this discipline. Additionally, handicapped applicants will be preferred if equally qualified. The remuneration is based on TV-L E13 (65%).

The position is open from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021; application deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2020. Candidates should submit their applications in English (including CV, brief motivation letter, and the name of a reference) as one pdf-file by e-mail to Prof. Dr. Sigrid Liede-Schumann (e-mail: [sigrid.liede@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:sigrid.liede@uni-bayreuth.de)), Dept. of Plant Systematics, Universitätsstrasse 30, 95440 Bayreuth. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Nicolai Nürk (e-mail: [nuerk@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:nuerk@uni-bayreuth.de)).