

With 44,000 students and around 5,700 employees, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am Main is one of the largest universities in Germany. Founded in 1914 by citizens of Frankfurt and since 2008 again in the legal form of a foundation, Goethe University has a high degree of autonomy, disciplinary diversity and innovative capacity. As a comprehensive university, Goethe University currently offers 154 degree programs in 16 faculties at five locations, has an outstanding research and third-party funding strength and is closely linked to society in a variety of interactions through its academics. In addition, Goethe University is embedded within the Rhein-Main Universitaeten (RMU) network.

In the **Department of Biodiversity and Molecular Evolution of Flowering Plants** at the Institute of Ecology, Evolution and Diversity of the Faculty of Biosciences at Goethe University, a position is available at the **earliest possible date** for a

Research Associate (m/f/d)
(E 13 TV-G-U, 65% part-time)

temporary position **for three years** in cooperation with Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and PAPIIT/UNAM, Mexico in the project 'Assessing the role of polyploidy evolution on diversification rates in a species-rich lineage of the pineapple family'. The salary grade is based on the job characteristics of the collective agreement applicable to Goethe University (TV-G-U).

About the research project

Polyploidy, the duplication of whole chromosome sets, can promote ecological differentiation, phenotypic change, affect recombination rates, gene expression, and can lead to reproductive isolation of lineages. However, whether polyploidy has differential effects on diversification rates remains a major question in plant evolutionary biology. We focus on shallow evolutionary scales, i. e. species level, within the megadiverse, Neotropical genus *Tillandsia* (Bromeliaceae), an excellent model system with diverse morphological and physiological adaptations. An explosive radiation fueled by extensive hybridization has been proposed for this genus, in which hidden (allo)polyploid diversity is likely to be uncovered. We will test the central hypothesis whether diversification rates vary as a function of polyploidy evolution.

Your qualification

- Master's degree in Biology or related fields, ideally with a focus on molecular systematics and/or macroevolution.
- experience in analyzing molecular data, especially HybSeq or comparable NGS data
- experience with chromosome counting and flow-cytometry is desired
- Bioinformatics skills, e. g. Python, Julia, Rev, and R are desirable

Proficient English. Knowledge of Spanish and / or German would be convenient but are not a requirement.

What we offer

- the opportunity to gain further qualifications as part of the project (doctorate)
- a research-focused and international team
- possibility to travel in Europe and Latin America
- a versatile, varied and interesting job in a dynamic research environment
- flexible working time models and the possibility of mobile working
- a Hessen state ticket for free travel on public transport throughout Hessen
- regular training and further education
- compatibility of family and career

Please send your application with the usual documents (CV, letter of motivation and certificates) in electronic form (summarized in a single PDF file with max. 8 MB) to Prof. Dr. Stefan Wanke via the department administration, Mrs. Nina Sünder (Suender@bio.uni-frankfurt.de) by **25.02.2025**. If you have any questions about the position, please contact Prof. Dr. Stefan Wanke (Wanke@bio.uni-frankfurt.de) and Prof. Dr. Carolina Granados Mendoza (Carolina.granados@ib.unam.mx) directly. Interviews will likely take place online. Unfortunately, Goethe University cannot reimburse any costs you incur during the application process.

The Goethe University is committed to a policy of providing equal employment opportunities for both men and women alike, and therefore encourages particularly women to apply for the position/s offered. Individuals with severe disability will be prioritized in case of equal aptitude and ability.