Job advertisement

The Leibniz Laboratory for Radiometric Dating and Isotope Research at Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel is seeking a

Research Assistant

within the DFG-funded Emmy Noether group ‘Hydrocarb’. The position is available at the next possible time, earliest at the 01st of January 2022. The position is initially limited until 31.03.2024 (subject to continued funding of the project after July 2024). The salary is based on the German public pay scale (TV-L E 13) if the conditions of the collective agreement are met. The regular weekly working hours are equal to 75% of a full-time employee (currently 29.025 hours). It is highly encouraged that the applicant will pursue a PhD in the course of their employment.

The project ‘Hydrocarb’ (https://kiel-geobiology.de/projects/) is a six-year research program aiming to develop and apply novel tools for paleoclimate reconstruction, e.g., hydrological cycle, atmospheric CO₂ content, and ocean temperature, based on the isotopic composition of molecular fossils (biomarkers). We are looking for a highly motivated researcher with an interest in interdisciplinary research at the intersection of organic geochemistry, geomicrobiology, and palaeoclimatology. The researcher will be part of an international and interdisciplinary research team with the possibility for research stays with project partners in Germany, USA, and Switzerland.

Your tasks:
• Analysis of biomarkers and their isotopic composition in sediments and water samples to reconstruct past climate
• Microbial culture experiments to study isotopic fractionation
• Collaboration with team members and project partners
• Independent research leading to a PhD, including publication of results in peer-reviewed scientific journals
• Presentation of results at national and international conferences and engagement in public outreach

We offer:
• A salary based on the German Collective Agreement for the Public Service of the Federation pay scale (TV-L).
• Funding for field and laboratory work as well as travel to national and international conferences.
• Opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations, including visits to international project partners
• An excellent multidisciplinary research environment at the University of Kiel and other institutions in the Kiel area

Qualifications:
• Master’s degree in geosciences, geology, biology, chemistry, or a related discipline
• Very good English language skills (written and spoken)
• Good communication and teamwork skills
• Enthusiasm to conduct scientific research
• Willingness to perform chemistry and microbiology lab work as well as participation in land-based and ship-based field work (primarily within central Europe)
• Foundational knowledge in organic (geo)chemistry, (geo)microbiology, or palaeoclimatology, demonstrated for instance through relevant coursework or a thesis in a related topic.
• Prior experience in (geo)chemical, microbiological, or palaeoclimatological lab work is beneficial, but not required.

The Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel sees itself as a modern and cosmopolitan employer. We welcome your application regardless of age, gender, cultural and social origin, religion, ideology, disability or sexual identity. We promote gender equality.

The University also supports the employment of disabled persons. Persons with disabilities will, with appropriate qualification and aptitudes, be employed preferentially.
The University strongly encourages women with appropriate qualifications to apply for the position. Women with equivalent qualifications, competence and expertise will be given preference.

We also support the application of people with a foreign background.

We look forward to receiving your detailed application, which should include the following documents:

- Letter of motivation,
- Curriculum vitae,
- A short sample of your original academic writing, e.g. a chapter from your undergraduate or Master’s thesis (1000-3000 words),
- Copy of diplomas or transcripts,
- Names and contact details of two academic referees.

Please send the complete application (in one PDF file) via email by **November 15th, 2021** to:

Dr. Felix Elling  
Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel  
Leibniz-Labor für Altersbestimmung und Isotopenforschung,  
Max-Eyth-Str. 11-13, D-24118 Kiel.  
Email: felling@leibniz.uni-kiel.de

For further information, please contact Dr. Felix Elling (Email: felling@leibniz.uni-kiel.de, Phone: +49 431 880 3894). Please refrain from submitting application photos.