

PhD Position in forest growth research

Duration: 3 years, 60 % of a full-time employment

Salary: Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L (German public service salary scale)

Start date: 15th Nov 2018* (preferably not later than 1st Dec 2018)

**Subject to a positive evaluation of the project proposal*



Background:

Southern Africa is facing several challenges within the upcoming decades in the light of climate change that will negatively influence people and agriculture and new solutions to reduce these effects are needed. The research project *ASAP* ("*Agroforestry in Southern Africa - new Pathways of innovative land use systems under a changing climate*") targets the employment of agroforestry systems as a potential response. The project aims at investigating the ecosystem services and environmental benefits of agroforestry systems (AFS) as an innovative, multi-purpose land-use management practice in Southern Africa.

Main tasks in this PhD position:

- Conducting field work in Germany and Southern Africa in different agroforestry systems
- Collection of 3D data utilizing terrestrial laser scanners, data processing and data evaluation
- Publication of experimental results in high-ranked scientific journals
- Presentation of results at international conferences.

The candidate should have:

- A solid foundation in plant ecology or forest ecology
- A high interest in structural modelling or 3D modelling
- A strong background in R
- A high degree of motivation for field work and the ability to plan and lead field campaigns for extended periods in Germany and Southern Africa
- The ability to work independently as well as part of an international team
- Exceptional English communication skills (esp. written, verbal)
- Preferred: a demonstrated ability to successfully carry out relevant research, including the analysis of data and written communication of results.

We offer:

- A PhD position with salary (TV-L E13 60%) for 3 years based at the University of Freiburg, Germany
- The possibility to gain experience in advanced methods using 3D models to investigate growth behaviour of trees
- Collaboration with international partners in an international project, travel to Southern Africa
- To engage in top-notch research and teaching with a unique spectrum of disciplines, perspectives, and people at University of Freiburg
- The opportunity to obtain a PhD degree at University of Freiburg
- To work for one of the most renowned and strongest research universities in Germany with a history spanning more than 500 years.
- To live right in the heart of one of Germany's most beautiful cities located at the foot of the Black Forest in close vicinity to France and Switzerland, with a rich cultural and academic life and excellent recreational opportunities.

How to apply:

Please send your application, consisting of an application letter of max. 1 page, your CV, relevant certificates (MSc., BSc., Diploma etc.), one reference letter and the names and contact details of two academic reference persons by 15th October 2018 to christopher.morhart@iww.uni-freiburg.de (Subject: "PhD position ASAP")

All documents should be merged to one single PDF-file!

More information:

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Christopher Morhart, via email at christopher.morhart@iww.uni-freiburg.de.

Please find more information about the Chair of Forest Growth at:
<http://www.iww.uni-freiburg.de/>

The University of Freiburg's human resources policy is oriented toward the principles of equal opportunity and diversity and encourages women to apply.

We regret that we cannot reimburse applicants travel and lodging expenses incurred as part of the selection and hiring process.