

Postdoctoral Researcher in Microbiology/Experimental Paleobotany University of Bonn, Germany



We are seeking a young, highly motivated, innovative, and independent postdoctoral researcher for microbiological studies on leaves to understand biofilm development and the formation of fossil plant compressions at the University of Bonn in Germany. The applicant should hold a recent Ph.D. in Microbiology, Botany, or in a closely related laboratory science and an interest in applying experimental and analytical methods to elucidate the role of microbes and biofilms in leaf preservation. The applicant should have a research profile with several publications in international, peer-reviewed journals on 16s rRNA amplicon sequencing, microbiome analysis, and experimental lab work. Important is documented experience in the microbiology lab with microbiome sequencing.

The Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology at the University of Bonn is excellently equipped with the laboratory equipment needed for this research, such as incubators, clean benches, including labs certified for genetically modified S1 and S2 infectious agents, centrifuges, photometers, -80 °C freezers, PCR, pipettes, autoclaves, gel electrophoresis, photometers, stereo and fluorescence microscopes, protein purification, and a cold room. Similarly, the Institute of Geosciences is well-equipped with high-resolution imaging and analytical tools, such as a confocal Raman spectrometer, an electron probe microanalyzer (EPMA), and a high-resolution X-ray microcomputed tomographic scanner (General Electric phoenix v|tome|x s 240D microCT). A newly purchased TESCAN Vega 4th generation, variable-pressure scanning electron microscope (soon to be equipped with EDX), and Leica dissecting and light photomicroscopes are also available in the Division of Paleontology.

Our work on the early stages of leaf fossilization is one of nine projects in a Research Unit on Fossilization funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft at the University of Bonn, so there are many opportunities for collaboration. This full-time postdoctoral position is for two years starting September 2021. Salary will be on the TV-L E13 level and will be adjusted in accordance to age, marital status, and experience.

Review of applications begins on May 1, 2021, and will continue until the position is filled. Your application should include a complete CV, list of publications, a description of your skills in microbiology, microbiome sequencing, and laboratory experimentation, as well as the names and contact details of three potential referees. Please email your application as a pdf to both PD Dr. Carole Gee (cgee@uni-bonn.de) and Apl.-Prof. Dr. Gabriele Bierbaum (g.bierbaum@uni-bonn.de).