

ter:labs

TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH



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A 3-Year PhD Position in Microbial Ecology / Ecosystem Ecology / Isotope Biogeochemistry

is available at the Division of Terrestrial Ecosystem Research (TER),
Department of Microbiology & Ecosystem Science, University of Vienna
within the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) project (D-A-Ch I3745-B29):

Decadal forest soil warming: Effects on soil carbon and nutrient dynamics and GHG efflux

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student (Master in Biogeochemistry, Microbiology, Ecology, Analytical Chemistry, or similar) who will investigate the effect of soil warming on root dynamics and exudation, on soil organic matter turnover including the rhizosphere priming effect, and on soil N and P cycle processes and C:N:P stoichiometry and their feed-back on C cycle processes in the second longest forest soil warming experiment (>15 years) world-wide, in Achenkirch, Tyrol, Austria.



The candidate is expected to have profound knowledge of terrestrial biogeochemical processes and their controls, plant-microbe interactions and their effect on soil biogeochemical processes, and to be trained in analytical chemistry using isotope tracing to measure soil processes, in spectrophotometric methods, and in field work, among others. The PhD will work in a team with two other PhDs focusing on soil warming effects on soil CO₂ efflux, soil organic matter chemistry, root turnover, mycorrhizal symbioses, and soil C and nutrient losses in the same experiment.

TER, the Division of Terrestrial Ecosystem Research, Department of Microbiology and Ecosystem Science, is committed to conduct excellent research in a motivating and intellectually stimulating environment, and to train our students to become independent and internationally competitive scientists who enjoy research and contribute to society as conscientious citizens.

Your responsibility will be to write a PhD thesis (three scientific papers) and the participation in research projects. Additionally, it is expected that you assist in the supervision of students and the maintenance of analytical instrumentation at the department. Teaching to the extent of the collective agreement provisions is required. Applicants must have the ability to work in an international team, have good communication skills and should be highly motivated and committed to pursuing interdisciplinary research. Excellent English in speaking and writing is mandatory.

The University pursues a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity (<http://diversity.univie.ac.at/>). The University lays special emphasis on increasing the number of women in senior and in academic positions. Given equal qualifications, preference will be given to female applicants.

Supervisor: Wolfgang Wanek (Microbiology & Ecosystem Science, University of Vienna);

Deadline for application: 31st January 2019 or until it is filled

Expected start date: March/April 2019 or at earliest convenience

How to apply: Please submit (1) your scientific CV, (2) a motivation letter that indicates your specific interest in pursuing the PhD topic and your technical experience in microbiology, ecosystem research, stable isotope techniques and analytical chemistry, and (3) reference letters from two mentors (professors) who have knowledge of your academic abilities to checo@univie.ac.at. Please send these documents as ONE single pdf file.

For further information contact Prof. Wolfgang Wanek (wolfgang.wanek@univie.ac.at).