

The **University of Vienna** (20 faculties and centres, 184 fields of study, approx. 10.400 members of staff, about 90.000 students) seeks to fill the position as soon as possible of a

PhD-Candidate/University Assistant (prae doc) at the Department of Botany and Biodiversity Research

Reference number: 13934

The employment is for 3 years (initially limited to 1.5 years with an automatic extension to a total of 3 years unless the employer submits a non-extension declaration no later than 12 months after the start of the employment). Upon a positive evaluation of the work progress, there is an option for a 4th year of employment. - To a limited extent, the successful candidate will also be involved in administration and teaching. - We are looking forward to receiving your application including a two-page application letter describing your motivation for applying for this position and a CV (including, if applicable, a list of scientific publications and presentations). Please submit your application via the website of the Job Center at the University of Vienna (<http://jobcenter.univie.ac.at>; email: jobcenter@univie.ac.at); no later than March 31, 2023 and labeled with the above reference no. In addition, please provide names and contact information of two potential referees. For further information please contact the supervisors of this PhD project: Jürg Schönenberger (juerg.schoenenberger@univie.ac.at, +43-1-4277-54080) and Marion Chartier (marion.chartier@univie.ac.at, +43-1-4277 540 87).

Duration of employment: 3 years (with the option for a 4th year)

Extent of Employment: 30 hours/week

[Job grading in accordance with collective bargaining agreement](#): §48 VwGr. B1 Grundstufe (praedoc) with relevant work experience determining the assignment to a particular salary grade.

Project Description:

This PhD-thesis will be embedded in an on-going project that aims to study floral development, floral diversity, and pollination biology in the genus *Aquilegia* (columbines) in the Ranunculaceae. Flowers of the different *Aquilegia* species are generally referred to one of three classical pollination syndromes that are associated with primary pollination either by nectar-collecting bumble bees, hummingbirds, or hawkmoths. The PhD-candidate will conduct fieldwork on the breeding system and pollination ecology of at least two European species (bee syndrome) and will use tomography-based, 3D geometric morphometrics of floral structure across a larger set of *Aquilegia* species with different pollination syndromes. The project offers the opportunity to learn and work with a series of field and lab-based methods including High Resolution X-Ray Computed Tomography and Scanning Electron Microscopy. -- The main place of work will be in the Division of Structural and Functional Botany (<https://sfb.univie.ac.at/en/>), which is part of the Department of Botany and Biodiversity Research. The division's research covers a wide range of topics, from the evolution of flowers and flowering plant systematics, over plant-animal interactions to paleobotany and palynology. In addition, the department houses various botanical, ecological, and zoological research groups as well as an herbarium and a botanical garden. Altogether, the department offers a stimulating working environment and excellent research facilities including state-of-the-art laboratories for morphological as well as for molecular work. The PhD-candidate will be part of the University's recently founded Vienna Doctoral School of Ecology and Evolution (<https://vds-ecology-evolution.univie.ac.at/>).

Expected Profile:

- A Diploma or MSc degree in biology, ideally with a specialization in botany or ecology.
- Experience either in pollination biology, floral morphology, and/or geometric morphometrics.
- Excellent knowledge of English in speaking and writing.

Applications including a letter of motivation (German or English) should be submitted via the Job Center to the University of Vienna (<http://jobcenter.univie.ac.at>) no later than 06.04.2023, mentioning reference number 13934.

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.

Human Resources and Gender Equality of the University of Vienna

Reference number: 13934

E-Mail: jobcenter@univie.ac.at

[Privacy Policy of the University of Vienna](#)