



**PhD position in fish palaeobiology and evolution (m/f/d)  
at the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart**

Homepage: [www.naturkundemuseum-bw.de](http://www.naturkundemuseum-bw.de)

We are seeking to the earliest possible date a highly motivated student with an interest in vertebrate palaeontology and palaeoecology to fill a PhD position funded for a two-year period by the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart (SMNS). The museum is an internationally renowned research institution, with extensive palaeontological and neontological collections.

**Project:**

The Early Jurassic Posidonia Shale is one of the classic European fossil lagerstätten. It has been intensively sampled for both invertebrate and vertebrate fossils for over 400 years, resulting in extensive museum collections, one of the largest of which is housed at SMNS. The funded PhD project will focus on the diversity, palaeoecology, and evolution of pachycormid fishes from the Posidonia Shale with the goal of understanding the early evolution of trophic disparity within this Mesozoic group. The project will be supervised by Dr. Erin Maxwell (<http://www.naturkundemuseum-bw.de/forschung/palaeontologie/maxwell>) and Dr. Rainer Schoch (SMNS/ University of Hohenheim).

**Required qualifications:**

- M.Sc./Diploma or equivalent in biology or palaeontology by the time the project starts
- strong English language skills
- research experience dealing with fossil fishes is an asset

Please note: Employment will be at the SMNS, Stuttgart. The successful applicant expected to enroll in a doctoral program at the University of Hohenheim to obtain the appropriate degree.

**In turn we offer:**

- the opportunity to pursue your academic career in an internationally renowned research museum with state-of-the-art facilities
- intensive academic and personal mentoring in the course of the Phd-project
- exciting research projects in an international and multidisciplinary environment
- an attractive workplace in the centre of Stuttgart
- flexible and family-friendly working hours
- benefits from occupational health management

Salary corresponds to the German civil service salary scale E 13 TV-L, 50%. The position needs to be filled by November 2020 and is funded for 2 years.

Your application should include a cover letter, CV including the contact information of two academic references, relevant certificates, as well as a 1-page statement of research interests detailing past research experience.

Please submit your electronic application exclusively online (in one file, max 5 MB) to [phd-pachycormidae@smns-bw.de](mailto:phd-pachycormidae@smns-bw.de) prior to **September 23, 2020**. Job interviews are scheduled for September 29, 2020.

For further information, please contact Dr. Erin Maxwell: 0049-(0)711/8936-145 or [erin.maxwell@smns-bw.de](mailto:erin.maxwell@smns-bw.de)

The SMNS is an equal opportunity employer; disabled applicants will be preferentially considered if equally qualified.

Please note that your incoming data will not be automatically encrypted. By submitting your application documents, you agree to share them with members of the selection committee in compliance with the provisions of the European General Data Protection Regulation (DSGVO).

Further information on data protection law for applicants can be found on our homepage under “Jobs” (in German).

Stuttgart, September 2, 2020

Teresa Windischbauer

Managing Director

