



**PhD position in plateosaurid 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 a highly motivated student with an interest in vertebrate palaeontology and palaeoecology to fill a PhD position funded for a three-year period by the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart (SMNS). The position is intended to be filled **by March 1, 2021 or later**. The museum is an internationally renowned research institution, with extensive palaeontological and neontological collections.

**Project:**

The *fossilagerstätte* Trossingen (Knollenmergel) forms one of the richest dinosaur deposits of the Triassic worldwide, and has been the focus of several excavations over the past century. The SMNS holds a vast collection of *Plateosaurus* material from these excavations, in addition to records of sedimentological and taphonomic data. The aim of the PhD project is to integrate these data with data on the morphological variation of *Plateosaurus* across the excavated rock sequence, which probably spans several hundred thousand years. Analysis of the impact of changes in climate and vegetation on the morphology of *Plateosaurus* form the major goal of the project.

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Rainer Schoch (SMNS/University of Hohenheim)

**Required qualifications:**

- M.Sc./Diploma or equivalent in palaeontology/earth sciences or biology by the time the project starts
- strong English language skills
- interest in scientific collection work
- research experience dealing with fossil reptiles (especially morphology) 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 should be filled by March 1, 2020 and is funded for 3 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-plateosauriden@smns-bw.de](mailto:phd-plateosauriden@smns-bw.de) prior to **January 20, 2021**. Job interviews are scheduled for January 29, 2021.

For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. Rainer Schoch: 0049-(0)711/8936-143.

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, December 8, 2020

Prof. Dr. Johanna Eder

Scientific Director

