



MINISTERIO DE
EDUCACIÓN Y
CIENCIA



CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE
INVESTIGACIONES
CIENTÍFICAS

MUSEO NACIONAL DE
CIENCIAS NATURALES

Post-doctoral research position announcement:

Evolution of species climatic niches

Starting date: November/December 2008

Duration: 24 months, possibly renewed.

Salary: 31,000 euros per year

Background

Lineages have a tendency to maintain their ancestral ecological niches (niche conservatism) and this triggers failure to adapt to new environments. But niches do evolve. The critical question is how fast they evolve and what triggers their evolution. Niche conservatism is central to ecological modelling and some regard it as a key driver of global diversity gradients. The holder of the postdoctoral fellowship will undertake theoretical work on niche conservatism, develop new methods for predicting patterns of niche evolution and conservatism, and collaborate in a broader endeavour to empirically measure the evolution of niches in space and time. In particular, the successful candidate is expected to co-supervise a PhD student that will undertake field work, phylogenetic reconstructions, and eco-physiological experiments in Chile and possibly Argentina.

Research environment:

The post doctoral research fellow will be associated to the LINC Global (Laboratorio Internacional de Cambio Global), which is a joint venture between the Spanish Research Council (CSIC) and the Pontifical University of Chile (PUC). The successful candidate will work jointly with Miguel B. Araújo (National Museum of Natural Sciences, CSIC) and Pablo Marquet (Department of Ecology, PUC). The post doctoral researcher will be based in the BIOCHANGE Lab (www.biochange-lab.eu; CSIC, Spain). The LINC-G combines a wide range of expertise at the CSIC and the PUC and the successful candidate should be expected to benefit from academic interactions with other researchers through project meetings, workshops, and direct contacts with other researchers in the consortium.

Required background and skills:

- PhD in Biology, Ecology, Evolution, or related fields
- Skills: solid background on evolutionary biology, eco-physiology, phylogeography, statistics, and modelling.
- Language: English as a first or second language; Spanish desirable but not mandatory.

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Application:

Send one cover letter (in English) explaining why you think you are an adequate candidate for the post, five copies of your most relevant papers, a short CV (no more than 3 pages), and two reference letters before the 15^h of October 2008.

Contact:

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