

# UC Merced

## Frontiers of Biogeography

### Title

Job announcements

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Financial issues. The IBS is a young society with very limited income and very limited reserves. When asked if they would support modestly increased membership fees to expand *Frontiers* and/or provide funding for off-year conferences or workshops, over three-quarters replied affirmatively. Similarly, about three-quarters also supported increasing conference registration fees by 10% to provide funding for students or to increase international participation. About two-thirds of respondents said they are willing to donate or buy an item for an auction at future meetings, so that the proceeds could go to support IBS activities.

Training and techniques, networking, etc. Much interest was expressed in web-based activities, with more than half of respondents saying they would take part in 'on-line conferences' in chat rooms with senior biogeographers; there was also strong interest in blogs, online networking, online presentations, regular updates from the IBS, more job advertisements, online teaching resources, etc.

Volunteers. While there is much satisfaction with the IBS among the members, there is clearly room for growth. Many members stated a willingness to get involved with promoting membership, editing *Frontiers*, and organizing regional IBS chapters or off-year activities.

The results of this survey give us a fairly detailed and nuanced picture of our IBS membership: as a group, we are young, excited about our society, pleased with the conferences we have held and the journal we have established, and willing to have active involvement in expanding our programs and activities. Biogeography is clearly perceived as an exciting field of research, with great potential to make important conceptual and practical contributions to human society. As the Board of Directors of the IBS prepares for its annual administrative and planning meeting, to be held concurrently with the young investigators' conference at Oxford, this survey will provide a rich source of information and ideas on how best to direct our future growth. We would like to thank all the members who took part in this survey, those who are so supportive of our society, and particularly those so willing to give their time to help make improvements. We look to the future with considerable optimism.

Richard Field<sup>1</sup> & Lawrence R. Heaney<sup>2</sup>

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## Job announcements

### 2-year postdoc position

#### Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre, Germany

The Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F; Macroecology Group) is a new interdisciplinary institute with the mission to carry out internationally outstanding research on the interactions of biodiversity and climate change on the organism level. It integrates a variety of disciplines from both natural and social sciences. The Project Area B "Biodiversity Dynamics and Climate" invites applications for the position of a Post-doctoral researcher in "Macroecology". The successful applicant will investigate the impact of climatic factors and other drivers of global change on population dynamics of organisms. We aim at trait-based, comparative analyses of long-term data sets across multiple

taxa (e.g. epizoobenthos, fish, birds, butterflies, plants) from the terrestrial, limnic and marine realm. The applicant will take responsibility in study design, statistical analyses and publication of the results in close collaboration with data owners.

The applicant should hold a Ph.D. in ecology or a related field, and have a solid background in comparative, macroecological analyses and in advanced statistical methods. Experience in analyses of species' traits and in population dynamics of organisms will be of advantage. The applicant is expected to work independently, to have an interest in a wide range of taxonomic groups, very strong oral and written communication skills and willingness to develop joint projects with multiple partners. Salary and benefits are according to

a public service position in Germany (TV-H E13). The contract shall start as soon as possible and will run for 24 months. The duty station will be Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The employer is the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung.

Send your application by e-mail attachment, mentioning the reference of this position (#B48a) and including a letter outlining your suitability for the post, a detailed CV, contact details of 2 referees and a selection of your most important publications before September 28th, 2011 to: Prof. Dr. h.c. V. Mosbrugger, Scientific Coordinator Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre, Senckenberganlage 25, D-60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. E-mail to Service and Administration: [recruiting@senckenberg.de](mailto:recruiting@senckenberg.de). For scientific enquiries please write to PD Dr. Ingrid Kröncke ([Ingrid.Kroencke@senckenberg.de](mailto:Ingrid.Kroencke@senckenberg.de)).

### 3-year postdoc position

#### University of Azores, Portugal

The Azorean Biodiversity Group (University of Azores, Portugal) is opening a Postdoctoral position to study the dynamics of soil and canopy arthropod communities under land-use changes. The research should also improve the understanding about how land use changes have affected arthropod functional diversity and body-size frequency distribution and make projections about possible future trajectories. It is also expected to quantify the ecosystem services of arthropods in the different Land-Uses.

Applicants should hold of a PhD in Ecology, Biodiversity and Conservation, Landscape Ecology or related disciplines. We prefer candidates with publications of recognized quality and experience in spatial ecology, ecological modelling, macroecology, and R. Opportunities exist to collaborate with field ecologists both in Azores (Prof. Paulo Borges Group; <http://cita.angra.uac.pt/biodiversidade/equipa/>) and the Museum of Natural History in Madrid (Prof. Jorge Lobo Group; <http://www.biogeografia.org/>). The initial appointments are for one year and a competitive stipend (1740 €/month), and continued funding is available for an additional 2 years provided satisfactory progress. The position is available from Autumn 2011, or no later than January 2012.

Individual applications must be submitted electronically, using the web application available at: <http://www.azores.gov.pt/gra/sctr>. To apply candidates must register at the Sistema Científico e Tecnológico Regional, through the web site mentioned above. In the application form the candidate must in-

clude a copy of the PhD certificate or, in case of not having it, indicate the date of the degree, the title and the institution that conferred the degree. Despite the above, the candidate must present an authenticated copy of the PhD certificate by the time of contract signature. Incomplete application forms are excluded automatically. For enquiries contact Prof. Paulo A. V. Borges ([pborges@uac.pt](mailto:pborges@uac.pt)).

### Postdoc position and PhD fellowships

#### Syracuse University, USA

Jason Fridley Lab (<http://plantecology.syr.edu/fridley>).

*Postdoctoral associate* to work on aspects of the vegetation of Eastern North America in the context of global change. Specific research objectives are flexible but will ideally take advantage of vegetation and environmental databases from Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Projects combining existing data with new field surveys of soil characteristics, plant trait data, or microclimate surveys are particularly encouraged. Other research emphases in the Fridley lab include global change impacts on grassland vegetation, comparative studies of native and invasive forest species, and biogeographic studies of successional ecosystems. The position is available as early as January 2012, and it will run for two years (annual minimum salary \$38,500, including full benefits). A PhD in ecology or related discipline is required. Preferred qualifications include evidence of strong quantitative and writing skills; statistical or GIS-based programming experience (e.g., R, GRASS-GIS); relevant field experience and taxonomic skills. Those with expertise in plant-soil relations are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants should send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names and full contact information (email and phone numbers) of three potential references to Jason Fridley ([fridley@syr.edu](mailto:fridley@syr.edu); 315-443-3098) no later than November 1, 2011.

*Two graduate (PhD) fellowships* are available for students to work on aspects of the vegetation of Eastern North America in relation to global change. At least one of the fellowships will involve a comparative analysis of old field succession patterns across the Eastern U.S., using experimental and survey-based techniques in a 4-yr project with colleagues at Duke University supported by the National Science Foundation. Other research emphases in the Fridley lab include global change impacts on grassland vegetation, vegetation-environment relationships in the Southern Appalachians, and comparative studies of native and invasive species in Eastern U.S. forests. Successful applicants will join a gro-

wing plant ecology and evolution group at Syracuse University and a larger ecological community that includes SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Fellowships are available beginning in Fall 2012 as 2-yr research assistantships, commonly used in the first and third years of graduate study; support through teaching assistantships is guaranteed in other semesters pending satisfactory progress toward the degree. Current graduate student stipends are \$25,167/yr, with

full benefits and tuition remission. Full applications to the SU Biology PhD program are due by January 31, 2012; applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a statement of interest, curriculum vitae, and GRE scores before applying to Jason Fridley ([fridley@syr.edu](mailto:fridley@syr.edu); 315-443-3098). General information about the Biology graduate program at Syracuse is available at <http://biology.syr.edu/grad/graduate.htm>.

## upcoming events

### IBS Early Career Conference

#### Advances in Biogeography

23-25 September 2011 – Oxford, UK

<http://www.biogeography.org/html/Meetings/>

### 12th EEF Congress

#### European Ecological Federation

25-29 September 2011 – Ávila, Spain

<http://www.eefcongress2011.eu/>

### BIOLIEF 2011

#### 2nd World Conference on Biological Invasions and Ecosystem Functioning

21-24 November 2011 – Mar del Plata, Argentina

<http://www.grieta.org.ar/biolief/>

### Workshop on the Biogeography and Phylogeography of Atlantic Fishes

26-27 November 2011 – Lisbon, Portugal

[http://biocongroup.eu/Workshop\\_Atlantic/Home.html](http://biocongroup.eu/Workshop_Atlantic/Home.html)

### Annual Conference of the Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö)

#### Islands in land- and seascape: The challenges of fragmentation

22-25 February 2012 – Erlangen, Germany

<http://www.gtoe-conference.de/>

### 6th International Conference of the IBS

January 2013 – Florida, USA

<http://www.biogeography.org/>

If you want to announce a meeting, event or job offer that could be of interest for (some) biogeographers, or you want to make a call for manuscripts or talks, please contact us at [ibs@mncn.csic.es](mailto:ibs@mncn.csic.es) and [frontiersofbiogeography@gmail.com](mailto:frontiersofbiogeography@gmail.com).

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We gratefully acknowledge Evolutionary Ecology, Ltd. and Mike Rosenzweig in particular for the advice on copyright matters.