

The Museum für Naturkunde Berlin (MfN) is opening a position for a Data Scientist.

This is a full time position, which is to be filled immediately. The employment term will last until the 31st of May 2015, but there is a chance for further employment possibilities.

Application deadline: 25 June 2014

Application number: 17/2014

Please direct your applications to the Museum für Naturkunde, Personalreferat, Invalidenstraße 43, 10115 Berlin, Germany (Personalreferat@mfn-berlin.de). Be aware that documents cannot be sent back. Please provide copies only.

For further questions please contact Dr. Jana Hoffmann (jana.hoffmann@mfn-berlin.de).

Job description

Please note that this is an unofficial translation of the German job announcement.

The position is intended to support the science program “Digital World and Information Management” at MfN in two projects.

Europeana Creative (www.pro.europeana.eu/web/europeana-creative) is a EU-funded project dealing with the possibilities of re-use of digital media through the platform Europeana (www.europeana.eu).

The DFG (German Science Foundation) project “German Federation for the Curation of Biological Data” (www.gfbio.org) is working on the development of a research infrastructure, which allows and facilitates exchange of biological and environmental research data. This project is currently in its pilot phase and two 3 year follow up projects are planned.

The position is suitable for building up a research group at MfN with the focus on semantic Biodiversity Informatics. The main goal of the science program “Digital World and Information Management” is the implementation of a modern and capable architecture for natural history data and data repositories, which will offer new ways for answering research questions in the realm of “Big Data” and “Public Engagement with Science”.

Tasks:

Evaluation and exemplary testing and implementation of methods and processes of Linked Open Data (LOD), the Semantic Web and Knowledge Management with focus on natural history data

Compilation of basic knowledge on semantic methods for an effective collaboration of researchers of various domains, e.g. taxonomy, environmental sciences and nature conservation

Demonstration of possibilities of Data-driven science and “Open Science” through pilot studies

Conceptual and strategic development of GFBio in collaboration with the existing team at MfN

Contribution to the development of the GFBio terminology server in close collaboration with other GFBio partners and preparation of existing terminologies and ontologies at MfN for re-use in GFBio

Improvement of possibilities for access, analysis and impact of natural history media in Europeana
Creative with methods of the Semantic Web

Support in internal and external communication of project results by bilateral communication, presentations, reports and publications

Requirements:

- Scientific degree in a university based study in informatics, bioinformatics or related subjects
- Strong publication record
- Work experience in the domain of Linked Open Data, Semantic Web or Ontology Development
- Very good oral and written skills in German and English
- Very good communication and collaboration skills, especially in an interdisciplinary environment
- Independent and structured working ethics
- Interest in innovative communication methods for scientific and natural history related questions
- Above average engagement and reliability

Additional desirable qualities:

- Doctoral degree in the above mentioned subjects
- Experience in Information and Knowledge Management at research institutions
- Leadership experience
- Working experience with Semantic Media Wiki or WikiData
- Knowledge of the role and tasks of a natural history research museum