

Post-doctoral position in ecological niche modeling using paleoclimatic simulations and paleontological data: Pessac, France

The advertised position is part of the HADoC project funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR) and will have a duration of 12 months. HADoC is a multidisciplinary project, directed by Dr. Gilles Ramstein of the LSCE laboratory, whose overall aim is to identify and evaluate potential causal links between past climate changes and large-scale dispersals of hominoids (apes) and early hominins from 23–1.8 million years ago in Africa, Europe, and Asia. Interested candidates can find more information about the project on the HADoC webpage (<http://anr-hadoc.ipsl.fr/>) or for English-only speakers on the ANR webpage (<https://anr.fr/Project-ANR-17-CE31-0010>). Applicants wishing to have more details on the project may also request a copy of the full project description (contact information below).

The researcher will work in the PACEA laboratory (<http://www.pacea.u-bordeaux.fr>) on the campus of the University of Bordeaux, under the scientific supervision of Dr. William Banks. The researcher will be tasked with conducting ecological niche modeling analyses for specific time periods within the Miocene and Pliocene. Five reference periods have been selected: 17, 14, 11, 7, and 3 million years ago, each associated with outputs from an Ocean-Atmosphere General Circulation Model downscaled to a resolution of ca. 100km. Moreover, the post-doctoral researcher will be responsible for disseminating the niche model results (e.g., writing and submitting articles), all in close collaboration with project team members including paleoclimatic modelers, paleoclimatologists, paleontologists, and archaeologists.

Requirements:

- Ph.D. in Ecology, Paleontology, Archaeology or very closely related fields. Candidates who are preparing a doctoral degree are eligible to apply but will be required to have obtained the Ph.D. prior to taking the appointment.
- Demonstrated expertise in ecological theory and current ecological niche (species distribution) modeling methods.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct and publish scientific research.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate and publish in English.
- Ability to work in a highly-collaborative and diverse research environment.
- Ability to travel from Bordeaux to both Paris and Poitiers, for periods potentially up to a week in duration, in order to collaborate with other project members.
- Previous experience working with paleoclimatic simulation data to produce niche estimations.

Desired Skills:

- It is highly preferable that applicants be familiar with methods necessary for performing ecological niche modeling for past time periods and for conducting such work with small occurrence datasets.
- The **ability to speak French** will facilitate the candidate's integration into the host and partner laboratories but **is not a requirement**.

Employment contract and salary:

- The researcher will be employed, via a 12 month contract, by the University of Bordeaux.
- The brut salary is 2,596€/month (31,152€/year). The post is intended for researchers in the initial phase of their career, with previous post-doctoral experience not exceeding three years.

Applicants should submit to Dr. William Banks (william.banks@u-bordeaux.fr):

- 1) A short statement/cover letter describing their research interests, expertise, and the relevance of these to the described position;**
- 2) A curriculum vitae;**
- 3) A list of publications; and**
- 4) Contact information (full name and email address) of two potential references**

Application deadline: October 10, 2019.

Preferred starting date: December 1, 2019.