

PhD Position on Microbial Ecology of Stream Biofilms

The inter-university center for aquatic ecosystem research, WasserCluster Lunz (www.wcl.ac.at) will hire a PhD-Student to study the role of microbial inoculation of stream biofilms. The project (lead: Jakob Schelker, University of Vienna and WasserCluster Lunz) is funded by the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW), based at WasserCluster Lunz and involves Dr. Katharina Besemer (WasserCluster Lunz) and Prof. Peter Peduzzi (University of Vienna) as collaborators.

The successful candidate will be conducting his/her PhD thesis based on experimental work including soil and stream monitoring within the Oberer Seebach Catchment in Lunz am See, Austria. The ultimate aim of the project will be to evaluate the importance of soil-stream connectivity for stream microbial diversity. The successful candidate is expected to operate a monitoring program to capture stream and hillslope water fluxes, to set-up and maintain relevant field equipment and to establish sampling schemes for stream biofilms, stream and soil dissolved organic carbon concentrations, as well as microbial counts and MiSeq sequencing of relevant samples.



We are looking for a highly motivated candidate that holds an MSc degree in a relevant subject (microbial ecology, aquatic ecology, limnology, hydrology, environmental sciences, geosciences). The successful candidate shall have experience in either microbial work or stream and hillslope hydrology, good skills in lab-work, data handling and data management. Further, competences in modelling, statistics or programming are assets. The candidate should be able to conduct independent research, to work in an interdisciplinary team and must have good verbal and written language skills in English.

Application

Please send your letter of motivation (max. two pages), a CV (including publications, if available) and max. three letters of recommendation to Dr. Jakob Schelker (jakob.schelker@wcl.ac.at).

Deadline for application is September, 30, 2017. **Starting date:** November 2017 or upon agreement. The duration of the contract will be three years. The place of work will be the WasserCluster Lunz.