

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology

Max-Planck-Institut für evolutionäre Anthropologie

MPI für evolutionäre Anthropologie • Deutscher Platz Nr. 6 • D-04103 Leipzig



MAX-PLANCK-GESellschaft

Department of Primatology

Post-doc position: Comparative social cognition of two ape species under natural conditions

We are offering a two years Max Planck post-doc fellowship with a possible two years extension working on a project that compares the cognitive abilities in the social domain between bonobos and chimpanzees under natural conditions using an observational and experimental approach.

Our general interest is to understand the relationship between sociality and social cognition. Specifically, we are interested in the use of behavioral strategies that are based on cognitive skills in wild living bonobos and chimpanzees.

This post-doc project will include observations and field experiments on bonobos in LuiKotale, Solonga NP (Democratic Republic of Congo) and on chimpanzees of the Tai Chimpanzee Project, Taï NP (Côte d'Ivoire).

Qualifications and Requirements

PhD, or comparable degree, in Biology, Psychology or Evolutionary Anthropology and a good knowledge in animal behaviour and animal cognition. The following experience is important for the successful applicant:

1. Expertise in conducting field experiments such as playbacks or similar controlled behavioral tests, preferably with primates.
2. Proficiency in field observations and collecting behavioural data on social mammals.
3. Experience in working and living under harsh conditions in remote areas.

The successful applicant speaks French and English, is resistant to physical and psychological stress, has strong social skills and is able to work and live amongst a group of international colleagues and local staff.

Salary and Funding

Supported by a MPI post-doc stipend (2+2 years). In addition the successful candidate is expected to write a research proposal to apply for additional grant money.

Start and Term of Appointment

Starting summer 2014

Comments

Applications including a cover letter stating research experience and interest, detailed curriculum vitae, and the names and e-mail addresses of three referees should be sent electronically. Application deadline is 30 April or until position is filled thereafter.

Contact Information

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