

Job Announcement

Doctoral position in “Ancient diet and mobility”

The new Cluster ROOTS – Social, Environmental, and Cultural Connectivity in Past Societies in the frame of the German Excellence Initiative explores social, environmental, and cultural processes that have substantially shaped past human development (and which are still active today). Research is organized in six research units (i.e. subclusters) covering six foci: (1) Environmental hazards and impacts; (2) Dietary intake and disease; (3) Knowledge production, technology, and innovation; (4) Population agglomeration and urbanisation; (5) Social differentiation and inequalities; and (6) Conflict and conciliation. The ROOTS ‘Reflective Turn’ will enable cross-disciplinary dialogue and enquiries within and between research foci, providing an overarching theoretical frame.

Research Associates and PhD students participate in the ROOTS Young Academy. The ROOTS Young Academy brings together young experts from an array of disciplines, which support ROOTS research with innovative research ideas. The Young Academy provides young researchers with excellent conditions for a successful career and personal development.

We invite applications for a
Ph.D Position „Ancient diet and mobility“
to begin as early as possible.

The salary for the Ph.D. position is based on the German federal public service scale (E 13 TV-L). The regular weekly working hours amount to 65 % of a full-time position (currently 25,16 hours). The term is fixed for a period of 3,5 years.

The successful candidate will develop new isotopic and quantitative approaches (which could include, for example, isoscapes and or mixing-models) as part of a hypothesis driven research project that addresses the subsistence and/or social dynamics underscoring human and/or diet and mobility in ancient societies. Ideally, proposed projects should articulate with the geographic focus of ROOTS, which includes the Near East, the Eurasian Steppe, and Europe. The PhD student will also aid in the development of new approaches investigating the relationship between dietary intake and isotopic values expressed in proteinaceous and biopapatite tissues with particular attention to how environmental inputs, physiological factors, and dietary composition influence diet-body spacing in carbon and nitrogen isotopes.

Required qualification:

- Eligible candidates must hold an outstanding university degree (MA, MSc or equivalent) in Chemistry, Earth Science, or Archaeology
- preferentially with a background in stable isotope biogeochemistry.
- strong English writing and communication skills
- the ability to work in a team

This position is part of Subcluster 2: Dietary Roots. There are opportunities for close collaboration with other researchers within ROOTS involved in investigating hunter-gather and (agro)pastoralist lifeways and social dynamics, including joint fieldwork. The graduate program is jointly offered by academics of the Humanities, Mathematics and Natural Sciences, and Life Sciences. The Doctoral candidate will be hosted by the ROOTS Young Academy and will be affiliated with the Johanna Mestorf Academy at Kiel University (www.jma.uni-kiel.de). Innovative research ideas are supported by the extensive infrastructure of the Graduate Centre at Kiel University. The position holder will be eligible to apply for research funds. Supervision will be provided at an interfaculty level by supervisors from two different disciplines.

The University strongly encourages women with appropriate qualifications to apply for the position. Women with equivalent qualifications, competence and expertise will be given preference. We also support the application of people with a foreign background.

The University also supports the employment of disabled persons. Persons with disabilities will, with appropriate qualification and aptitudes, be employed preferentially.

Please address your application, which includes a 1) cover letter including a statement of motivation, 2) full CV (including list of publications), 3) the proposed doctoral project (max. 1500 words) and the name of two references with contact information; a copy (in .pdf format) of your master-thesis or proof of equivalent qualification; certificates of academic degrees) as one single .pdf document until **November 30th**, 2020.

Search Committee
Speaker Prof. Dr. Johannes Müller,
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Kiel University,
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Germany
via e-mail (application@roots.uni-kiel.de)

All documents must be submitted in English, with the exception of the copy of the master-thesis.
Please refrain from submitting application photos.

For additional information, please contact:
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PD Dr. Mara Weinelt (Speaker of ROOTS Young Academy, mweinelt@roots.uni-kiel.de)

