FULL-TIME ACADEMIC VACANCY

FACULTY OF SCIENCES

FIELD: “ECOLOGY OF PLANT COMMUNITIES AND POPULATIONS”

START DATE: 01/09/2024

The University of Liège is the biggest French-speaking public university in Belgium. It employs more than 5,700 staff members across four campuses, including 3,600 active teachers and researchers in all fields of the human and social sciences, science and technology, and health sciences. It hosts nearly 27,000 students of 123 different nationalities in one of the most multicultural and dynamic cities in Europe, less than an hour from Brussels and Cologne, two hours from Paris, and three hours from London and Amsterdam.

Actively involved in the social and environmental transition, ULiège supports students to fulfil their roles as responsible citizens (training in sustainable development, Green Office, etc.) and promotes ethical, multidisciplinary and open research. ULiège is committed to the region in which it operates and contributes towards local socio-economic development. It has developed numerous partnerships, notably with the university hospital. Internationally and united, it participates in the European University of Post-Industrial Cities, UNIC initiative and has one of the most extensive collaborative networks in the world.

ULiège offers attractive career prospects in a high-quality working environment, promoting well-being, diversity and equality of opportunity. Since 2011, ULiège has been proud to display the European Human resources strategy for researchers (HRS4R) label, which reflects its commitment to open, transparent and merit-based procedures. In addition, it recognises the quality and diversity of research in line with the recommendations of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA). ULiège encourages its academic staff to travel internationally and welcomes international researchers through its EURAXESS centre.

JOB DESCRIPTION

A full-time, indivisible position in the field of the Ecology of Plant Communities and Populations within the Department of Biology, Ecology and Evolution (BEE). This post includes teaching and research activities, as well as services to the Community.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

The job-holder will teach at Bachelor’s level (biological, geographic and geological sciences) and Master’s level (biology of organisms and ecology, and the specialisation in the biology of conservation, biodiversity and management).

Teaching tasks will relate to the theory and practical aspects of plant biology, as well as the ecology of plant communities and populations. The job-holder will develop teaching in line with the field in question, at Master’s level. They will contribute towards leading and managing botanical field trips and internships (good naturalist knowledge required). The successful applicant will supervise Master’s dissertations, a professional internship, and doctoral theses.

By means of example, the position may include the following courses:

- Plant biology:
  - Botanics (BLOCK 1 Bachelor’s in Geological Sciences, BLOCK 3 Bachelor’s in Geographical Sciences, 20h Th, 15h Pr, 1 day FW)
  - Phytogeography (BLOCK 3 Bachelor’s in Geographical Sciences 10Th 1 day W)
Monitoring biodiversity and population dynamics (M1, Master’s in the Biology of organisms and ecology, specialising in BCBG, 6h Th, 12h TUT, 3 days FW, joint teaching)

Helping to organise and/or supervise internships with another member of staff, e.g.:
- SSTG0024-1 - Internship: biodiversity, phylogeny and ecology, Master’s in the biology of organisms and ecology, specialisation, 10 days F., 40 students (joint teaching)
- SSTG0047-2 Internship: mountain biodiversity and ecology, Master’s in the biology of organisms and ecology, specialisation, 48h (6 days internship), 24 students (joint teaching)
- SSTG0064-1 Applied systematics, biogeography and spatial analysis of vegetation, 6 days FW (joint teaching)

In addition, the successful applicant may be required to teach one or more General Biology courses at Bachelor’s level. The course list will be updated to reflect the revised programmes.

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

The job-holder will develop innovative research in the field of the Ecology of Plant Communities and Populations. The research themes of the BEE department are multidisciplinary and cover several research units. This vacancy has been identified as a priority and the person who is recruited will be expected to develop their research team, making the most of the available equipment. They will actively participate in the development of collaborative research in the field of ecology within the Department. The job-holder’s research must enrich the research activities carried out within the Department, using quantitative digital approaches to new themes in response to current issues (spatial ecology, distribution modelling, dispersion, etc.). Candidates must demonstrate a high quality scientific production in accordance with the standards of the discipline. They will also be expected to apply to external bodies in order to obtain relevant funding.

**SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY**

The successful applicant will join the Department of Biology, Ecology and Evolution and will participate in the various activities and missions of this Department, the Faculty and the University, such as:
- establishing links with professionals in the field;
- promoting the results of research with the general public;
- promoting courses to potential students;
- active involvement in various University bodies.

**QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED / PROFILE**

- Hold a doctorate in science (in the field of biology)
- Demonstrate:
  - International-level research experience in the field of the Ecology of Plant Communities and Populations;
  - a single post-doctoral research position lasting at least six months in a research laboratory other than the laboratory of origin, preferably abroad.
- Demonstrate excellent teaching skills, both in terms of teaching classes as well as mentoring students in the Master’s and Doctoral programmes;
- Demonstrate the ability to teach general biology and specific subjects linked to the vacancy at Bachelor’s and Master’s level, as well as the ability to supervise field internships and practical work;
- Be able to teach in French.

The use of modern statistical approaches and a research field relating to anthropogenic plant communities is a plus.
SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure will be in accordance with the regulations applied within the University of Liège. Our institutional policy is based on diversity and equal opportunities. We select candidates on the basis of their qualities regardless of age, sexual orientation, origin, beliefs, disability or nationality.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should be made using the online form available on the following website: https://my.uliege.be/portal/go_xt.do?a=o%7C11004%7Ce%7C568688 no later than 18/02/2024 (before midnight Belgian time). Late applications may be refused.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:

- Cover letter;
- Full CV (using the headings given in the summary CV);
- Summary CV model to be downloaded [IC], [Word version - pdf version];
- A report on past and current research activities (2 pages maximum) and a research plan (5 pages maximum), including how it is envisaged that this will integrate within the University of Liège;
- A teaching file (max. 5 pages) including a report on any prior teaching activities, and a description of the vision and development of teaching activities and teaching approaches, including a proposal for a Master's level course relating to the theme of the vacancy;
- For applicants from ULiège: attach a list of publications generated by My Orbi;
- Attach publications in electronic format unless they are available in open access (contact ORBi).
- For applicants from outside the University: Attach a list of publications as presented on ORBi ORBi access;
- Attach digital versions of publications.

RECRUITMENT CONDITIONS

The post-holder will be appointed either for a fixed term of four years, or definitively.

If the post is granted for a fixed term, an evaluation will take place during the third year.

- If this evaluation is negative, the appointment will end after the four-year period.
- If the assessment is positive, the person concerned shall be appointed on a permanent basis.

INFORMATION

Information about aspects of the job can be obtained from Mr Jean-Christophe PLUMIER - tel.: +32 (0) 4 366 38 43 – JC.Plumier@uliege.be

Any further information can be obtained from the administrative department of the Faculty: Ms Ninfa GRECO – tel.: +32 (0) 4 366 50 41 – N.Greco@uliege.be

REMUNERATION:

Salary scales and how they are applied are available from the human resources department of the University: Ms Ludivine DEPAS – tel.: +32 (0) 4 366 52 04 – ludivine.Depas@uliege.be

Date of publication: 20/12/2023