

## **Competition notice**

Project title: Metabarcoding approach for evaluating the role of micromammals (rodents and bats) as a zoonotic reservoir

Principal Investigator: dr hab Agnieszka Kloch

Project description

The aim of the project is to characterize pathogen fauna, including zoonotic species, among free-living bats and rodents in an urbanization gradient. The project will merge intensive fieldwork with molecular work including NGS sequencing and bioinformatic analyses.

### **Requirement**

- MSc (or equivalent) in biology or similar field
- experience in molecular techniques in ecology and/or experience in fieldwork with small mammals, with a focus on characterizing infection status
- willingness to learn bioinformatic pipelines
- desired: experience with metabarcoding
- desired: experience with R, Python/Perl, and/or Linux system

**Discipline: Biological Sciences**

**Admission limit: 1**

### **Recruitment schedule**

- registration in the Internet Registration of Candidates, referred to as “IRK”, submitting an application to the IRK: 19.01 – 04.02.2021
- qualification procedure: 08.02-10.02.2021
- announcement of the ranking list: until 12.02.2021
- accepting documents from qualified candidates: 15 -25.02.2021
- announcement of the list of accepted candidates: until 26.02.2021

### **Recruitment fee**

150 PLN

### **Form of the selection procedure**

Evaluation of the following elements shall be taken into account in the selection process:

- 1) scientific activity of the candidate based on a CV or resumé, documented with scans of materials attached to the application for admission to the School;
- 2) interview with the candidate;
- 3) meeting the candidate profile.

### **Language of the selection process, including the interview**

The interview shall be carried out in Polish or English – in accordance with the candidate’s preferences presented in IRK. If the Polish language is selected, the interview may include parts in English.

## Required documents

The candidate shall submit the application for admission to the School only in IRK. It shall include:

- 1) the application for admission to the Doctoral School;
- 2) scan of a diploma of completion of the long-cycle Master's degree programme or second-cycle programme or an equivalent diploma obtained under separate regulations or –in the case of candidates pursuing education within the European Higher Education Areas –a declaration that the diploma or certificate of obtaining a Master's degree shall be provided by 25 February 2021, in the case of holding a diploma equivalent to the diploma of completion of the long-cycle Master's degree programme or second-cycle programme, the candidate shall justify this equivalence;
- 3) a resumé or curriculum vitae containing information about scientific activities, including scientific interests and scientific achievements during five calendar years preceding the submission of the application, subject to § 18 s. 5, in particular publications, research and organisational work in scientific associations, participation in scientific conferences, participation in research projects, awards, distinctions, research internships, completed training courses on research skills, science popularisation activities, activities in bodies representing scientific societies, professional career;
- 4) scans of materials confirming scientific activities referred to in the resumé or CV;
- 5) a document confirming the command of English at least at B2 level or declaration about the command of English to the extent enabling the education in the school;
- 6) a scan of the declaration of the supervisor candidate about their willingness to be the candidate's supervisor and the number of doctoral students, for whom they are appointed as the supervisor, in accordance with the template determined by the Rector; additionally, the candidate can enclose a scan of the opinion of the supervisor candidate and opinions of other academic staff on the candidate and their scientific activities or the proposed research project;
- 7) one photograph of the candidate's face, allowing their identification;
- 8) declaration whether the candidate is or was a doctoral student or participant of doctoral studies, and if yes – title of doctoral dissertation or the research project prepared by the candidate, as well as first name and surname of the academic tutor or the supervisor;
- 9) declaration on familiarising themselves with the content of the Resolution, as well as Article 40 and Article 41 of the Code of Administrative Procedure;
- 10) scans of transcripts of records of the first and second cycle programmes, the long-cycle Master's degree programme or equivalent documents (e.g. diploma supplement);
- 11) abstract of the master's thesis or draft master's thesis in English (up to 3,000 characters with spaces);

## Evaluation criteria

- research activity: papers (10p), conference presentations (5p)
- MSc/BSc thesis included:
  - fieldwork with small mammals (5p)
  - molecular methods (5p)
  - parasitological analyses (5p)
- mean grades during studies >4.5 (3 p)
- experience with metabarcoding (15p)
- experience with R/Python/Perl (3p)
- experience with Linux (3p)

**Education program**

The education lasts 4 years. It includes obligatory classes (no more than 300 hours in total during the whole period of education) and the implementation of an individual research program, carried out under the supervision of a supervisor. Beginning of education – March 1, 2021.

**Scholarships**

During the four years of study, the PhD student receives a scholarship in the amount of PLN 3000,00 gross-gross for the first two years of studies (before the mid-term evaluation) and PLN 4300,00 gross-gross in the next two years after the mid-term evaluation.