



Somerset Street • Grahamstown • 6139 • Tel: +27(0)46 622 2312 • Fax: +27(0)46 622 2398
Associated Research Institute of Rhodes University

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RHODES UNIVERSITY
Grahamstown • 6130 • South Africa



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Advert: Postdoctoral Fellowship (palaeobotany / palaeoentomology)

Project: Reconstructing Permian ecosystems of the Karoo Basin, South Africa

Duration: Up to 2 years, depending on progress

Closing date for applications: 25 November 2019

Start Date: January 2020 (negotiable)

Salary: R220 000 per year

The **Department of Earth Sciences** at the **Albany Museum** and **Rhodes University**, Makhanda, Eastern Cape, South Africa is accepting applications for a **Postdoctoral Fellowship** funded for up to 2 years by the NRF African Origins Platform.

Job Description:

This is a research position, primarily involving the taxonomic description of plant and/or insect fossils from the Permian of the Karoo Basin. The successful applicant will work as part of an interdisciplinary team researching these elements within a palaeoecological context, towards a better understanding of the biostratigraphy, palaeoclimate and palaeoenvironment of the Karoo Basin.

Duties will include engagement with an interdisciplinary team of students and experts resulting in joint publications, undertaking fieldwork at various Permian localities, assisting in the management, curation and photography of the palaeobotanical and palaeoentomological collections at the Albany Museum, and participation in various outreach activities at the Albany Museum.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in palaeobotany, palaeoentomology or extant botany or entomology, with demonstrated expertise in taxonomy.

The position requires excellent communication and interpersonal skills, attention to detail, a broad knowledge of, and keen interest in, the life sciences.

The successful candidate will be working under the supervision of Dr Rose Prevec, head of the Department of Earth Sciences at the Albany Museum. They will have access to the facilities and vibrant community of affiliated institution, Rhodes University.

Major Duties/Responsibilities:

- Participation in an interdisciplinary, collaborative project reconstructing Permian ecosystems
- Taxonomic description of new plant and/or insect fossils or plant-insect interactions for publication
- Photography and cataloguing of research specimens
- Fieldwork
- Outreach activities at the Albany Museum, including public talks.



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Qualifications:

- A PhD in palaeobotany, palaeoentomology, botany or entomology, obtained within the last three years
- A proven track record of taxonomic skills
- Competent English Language written and oral communication skills
- Proficiency in macro- and microphotography an advantage

Application Details:

Applications, consisting of a single PDF file combining the six documents listed below, should be emailed directly to **Dr. Rose Prevec** (r.prevec@am.org.za) on or before **25 November 2019**.

Required documents:

- A 1-page cover letter expressing interest in this position
- A CV with a list of all publications
- A certified academic transcript from your undergraduate and postgraduate institutions
- A certified copy of your Doctoral certificate
- A 1-page research statement summarizing previous research experience
- The names and contact information of at least two referees with knowledge of your research and academic experience.

Successful applicants will be notified before 15 December 2019. Please direct any inquiries about the position to Dr. Rose Prevec.