



## Palaeo-Biodiversity

Münster is a hotspot for **biodiversity research on all temporal and spatial scales**, coordinated by the *Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research and Applied Ecology*. The deep-time component of this spectrum is covered by a collaboration between the Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, the GeoMuseum, and the LWL Museum für Naturkunde. At the core of this consortium, the palaeontology professorship facilitates synergies in teaching, research and knowledge transfer.

To further strengthen Münster as a prominent hub for paleo-biodiversity research, and to integrate the field of palaeontology **under the guiding principle of Earth System Sciences**, the Institute of Geology and Palaeontology is seeking a candidate to submit an application to the Volkswagen Foundation funding offer „Earth System Sciences“.

## Contact

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> Jun.-Prof. in the field of  
**Palaeontology with tenure-track**

Institute of **Geology**  
and **Palaeontology**



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## VW Foundation

The Volkswagen Foundation has an open call for funding applications that establish and expedite a holistic approach in Earth System Sciences. To do so, the **VW Foundation funds 6-year tenure-track junior professorships, with up to 1.5 M€** per professorship. The application consists of a strategic concept by the university and a research agenda by the candidate for the junior professorship,

The Institute of Geology and Palaeontology will respond to this call by making the case for a W1 Professorship in Palaeontology. The ideal candidate will have a research agenda that focusses on understanding changes in biodiversity on geological timescales.

<https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/funding/funding-offer/earth-system-sciences>

## Timeline

### June 4th, 2023

Send your CV and short (1 page) research agenda to [volkswagen@uni-muenster.de](mailto:volkswagen@uni-muenster.de)

### July 2023

Internal selection of candidate is communicated.

### Summer 2023

Joint writing of the application, which consists of a strategic concept for the university, and the research agenda of the candidate

### November 15th, 2023

Submission to the Volkswagen Foundation

### June 2024

Decision by the Volkswagen Foundation

### Autumn/Winter 2024

Start tenure-track Junior-Professorship

## Who do we need?

We are seeking a young and ambitious individual who specializes in using palaeontology to understand ancient ecosystems, reconstruct palaeoenvironments and/or quantify palaeo-biodiversity dynamics. The ideal candidate should have a strong track record of academic achievements, a keen interest in interdisciplinary research, the ability to work collaboratively with other researchers and students, and should be proficient in **field- and collection-based research and teaching**.

We are explicitly looking for an early-career paleontologist with 1–10 years of postdoctoral experience. Hence, we encourage applicants who have shown exceptional promise in their field and have the drive to make significant contributions to the field of paleo-biodiversity research.