UNIWERSYTET WARSZAWSKI

CeNT CENTRUM NOWYCH TECHNOLOGII

CeNT-15-2025

Director of Centre of New Technologies of the University of Warsaw, with the Project Leader, announce the opening of the competition for the position of PhD Student in the Laboratory of Paleogenetics and Conservation genetics– Centre of New Technologies of the University of Warsaw.

JOB OFFER

Position in the project:	PhD Student
Laboratory:	Laboratory of Paleogenetics and Conservation Genetics
Scientific discipline:	Biological Sciences
Keywords:	ancient DNA; genomics; brown bear; evolution
Job type (employment contract/stipend):	stipend
Part-time/full-time:	full-time
Number of job offers:	1
Remuneration/stipend amount/month:	5 000 PLN gross gross from the project funds; (in addition the scholarship from the Doctoral School https://en.uw.edu.pl/2024-2025-doctoral-schools-admissions/)
Position starts on:	01.10.2025
Maximum period of contract/stipend agreement:	36 months with the possibility of extension for another 12 months.
Institution:	Centre of New Technologies, University of Warsaw
Project leader:	dr Danijela Popović
Project title:	Reconstruction of the evolution history of brown bear in the Balkans
NCN programme:	OPUS 27
Project description:	The main aim of this project is to reconstruct the evolutionary history of brown bears in the Balkans over the last 50,000 years using advanced biomolecular methods, such as whole-genome sequencing and stable isotope analysis. We intend to analyse approximately 100 ancient and 50 modern brown bears. Genome-wide data will enable temporal and spatial analyses to provide information on demography, ancestry, past admixture events and migrations, relationships between individuals and populations, and changes in the effective population size. Stable isotope analysis will be

	used to reconstruct the diet. The chronology of the bone samples will be confirmed by direct AMS radiocarbon dating of bone collagen. We will attempt to answer the following questions: 1. How has genetic diversity changed over the last 50,000 years? 2. Did the dietary preferences of brown bears change over time? 3. Why did brown bears survive while cave bears became extinct during the LGM Project description: NCN OPUS 27 Popovic
Key responsibilities include:	- Extracting DNA from ancient and modern samples. - Preparing DNA sequencing libraries. - Sequencing on an Illumina platform. - Analysis of sequencing data, including population genomic analyses. - Active contribution to preparing data for scientific publications.
Profile of candidates/requirements:	The competition is open for persons who meet the conditions specified in the regulations on the allocation of resources for the implementation of tasks financed by the National Science Centre for OPUS 27 grant. - MSc degree in biology or related discipline. The MSc degree should be obtained before the date of employment in the project. - Confirmed status of a PhD student (on the date of starting work in the project at the latest). - Enrolment in a doctoral program at the University of Warsaw with a stipend provided by a doctoral school. Other requirements: - Basic knowledge of molecular and population genetics. - Ability to work in a group, curiosity, and motivation to learn. - Willingness to work in interdisciplinary and international teams. - Fluency in written and spoken English. Additionally appreciated: - Experience in work with ancient DNA. - Experience in high-throughput sequencing on Illumina platforms (i.e. DNA library preparations). - Knowledge of Linux operating system. - Familiarity with bioinformatic analyses of raw sequencing data and genomic analyses are highly valued.
Required documents:	1. Cover letter 2. Current curriculum vitae 3. Copy of MSc certificate (or, if the MSc certificate has not been obtained yet, a certificate/document about the date of MSc defense); 4. Document confirming the status of PhD Student (to be provided before starting work in the project); 5. Signed information on the personal data processing. Before entering the competition, candidates are obliged to familiarise themselves with Internal Reporting Procedure.
We offer:	- possibility to work in friendly and motivating working environment - participation in an exciting research project using the state-of-the-art research techniques - participation in scientific courses and conferences funded by the project - access to fully equipped ancient and modern DNA laboratories
Please submit the following documents to:	e-mail: d.popovic@cent.uw.edu.pl
Application deadline:	20.04.2025 Selected candidates will be invited for an interview in person at the Centre for New Technologies, University of Warsaw, or online. The interviews will be held between 21 and 30.04. 2025.

	Candidate selection will be carried out in accordance with the regulations of the National Science Centre.
Date of announcing the results:	05.05.2025
Method of notification about the results:	e-mail, CeNT UW website