

CALL FOR CANDIDATES

The Dean of the Faculty of Biology, with the consent of the Rector of the University of Warsaw, announces a competition for the position of Assistant Professor in the project: "Unravelling the establishment of endosymbiosis: quest for intermediate evolutionary stages among microbial eukaryotes (SYMBIOSTART)".

About the programme/project/initiative:

Title of the programme/project/initiative	Unravelling the establishment of endosymbiosis: quest for intermediate evolutionary stages among microbial eukaryotes (SYMBIOSTART)
Type of the programme/project/initiative	Sonata BIS-13
Funding institution	National Science Centre, Poland
Duration of the programme/project/initiative	60 months
Leader of the programme/project/initiative	Dr hab. Anna Karnkowska, prof. ucz.
Description of the programme/project/initiative	<p>The SYMBIOSTART project's main goal is to understand the establishment of endosymbiosis by identifying and characterizing novel protist-endosymbiont systems at intermediate stages of endosymbiosis. We will do that by screening various freshwater environments for such interactions, isolating and identifying partners using microscopic and genetic methods. The organisms in the intermediate stages of endosymbiosis will be studied at the level of genome evolution and at the level of gene expression regulation that accompanies the endosymbiotic interaction. We will also examine the ultrastructure of the studied cells which – together with genetic information – will reveal the nature of the studied systems. Experiments on established cultures of protists and their endosymbionts will enable a deeper understanding of the endosymbiosis process, including identifying the genes encoding proteins essential for its early stages.</p> <p>Further information is available here</p>

About the Position:

Position title	Assistant Professor
Organizational unit	Faculty of Biology
Employee group	Research
Position profile ¹	R2

¹ To be completed only in the case of a competition for a position in the group of research or research-and-teaching staff.

Scientific discipline ²	Biological sciences
Number of positions	1
Type of employment & workload	Full-time employment contract for a set time
Expected start date & employment duration	Employment starting from march 2026, for 12 months with a possibility of extension for another 12 months.
Salary	Base salary of ~8700 PLN gross/month plus a 13th salary and seniority allowance.
Other work conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place of work: Research Team Evolution and Genomics of Microbial Eukaryotes in the Institute of Evolutionary Biology. Career development opportunities: more information is available on the UW Human Resources Office website.
Primary responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting scientific research in biological sciences and publishing findings in international scientific journals. Securing research funding. Fulfilling other academic teacher responsibilities as required by employment at the University of Warsaw. <p><i>More details: General scope of duties for academic teachers.</i></p>
Eligibility criteria ³	<p>Candidates must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research competencies in the field of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience conducting research on microbial eukaryotes Experience in bioinformatics Meet the requirements specified in Article 113 of the Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws 2024, item 1571, consolidated text). Hold a Ph.D. degree in biological sciences or a related field obtained before the application deadline. Have significant scientific achievements documented by well-cited publications in renowned international journals, invitations to deliver lectures or seminars, etc. Have international experience, e.g.: participation in international conferences, engagement in international research projects, international collaborations documented by joint publications. <p><i>If hired, the University of Warsaw must be <u>the primary place of employment</u> for the candidate.</i></p>
Additional expectations ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience in individual work with students (e.g., supervising theses) Research mobility, e.g., a fellowship at a foreign research institution. Proficiency in English, both spoken and written Scientific independence and team working skills Experience in first-author manuscript writing Being proactive and showing a capability to solve issues

² To be completed only in the case of a competition for a position in the group of research or research-and-teaching staff.

³ Requirements specified by the Law on Higher Education and Science and the Statute of the University of Warsaw, as well as those necessary for the position.

⁴ Additional conditions whose non-fulfillment does not result in a negative formal assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the regulations of the National Science Centre, the doctoral degree should be obtained in the year of employment in the project or in the period of 7 years before January 1 of the year of employment in the project
Candidate evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of the publication record and, if applicable, patent output. Success in securing research funding. Skills relevant to the project, documented through publications, including experience working with microbial eukaryotes and conducting phylogenetic analyses.
<i>The position involves work related/not related⁵ to activities under child protection regulations.</i>	

Call guidelines:

Reference number of the announcement	WB-KG-19/2025
Keywords	Biological sciences, microbiology, protistology, evolutionary biology
Application deadline ⁶	9 February 2026
How to apply	<p>Send applications via email to a.karnkowska@uw.edu.pl and the Faculty Dean's Office: dziekanat.biol@uw.edu.pl.</p> <p>Candidates will receive an email confirmation of document submission. If no confirmation is received, please contact the project leader.</p>
Required documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal questionnaire – available on the Faculty of Biology UW website. Motivation letter including description of scientific interests and research activity plan. <p><i>Ensure the completeness of your application and submit it by the deadline. Failure to meet these requirements will result in rejection on formal grounds.</i></p>
This competition is the first stage of the recruitment process. Please familiarize yourself with the open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment policy at the University of Warsaw: link	
Expected date and method of announcing the competition results	<p>Interviews will take place between 16 and 20 of February 2026. Candidates will be individually notified about their interview schedule with the selection committee.</p> <p>Candidates will be informed of the results via email by 23 February 2026.</p>
Contact for inquiries	<p>Email: a.karnkowska@uw.edu.pl (please include the announcement reference number).</p> <p>Applicants requiring accessibility accommodations should indicate their needs in the personal questionnaire, under the section: <i>Other important information from the candidate</i>.</p>

About the Faculty / hiring unit:

Research profile of the Faculty	The Faculty conducts research across a broad range of biological sciences disciplines. More details are available on the Faculty website .
Teaching profile of the Faculty	The Faculty offers degree programs in <i>Biology</i> and <i>Biotechnology</i> and co-organizes programs in <i>Nature Conservation</i> and <i>Bioinformatics & Systems Biology</i> .

⁵ Remove the unnecessary part.

⁶ No earlier than 30 days from the date of the announcement's publication.

Other information	More details can be found on the Faculty website and Institute of Evolutionary Biology website .
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The University of Warsaw follows a whistleblower procedure for reporting legal violations and taking follow-up actions. More information, including data protection policies, is available online: [link](#)

The University of Warsaw holds the HR Excellence in Research award from the European Commission, recognizing institutions that comply with the European Charter for Researchers.



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