

COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

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 ¹ in the project “Urbanisation impact on the avian gut microbiota: comparative and experimental approaches”

About the project:

Title of programme/project/undertaking	Urbanisation impact on the avian gut microbiota: comparative and experimental approaches	
Type of project	OPUS 21	
Funding institution	Polish National Science Centre	
Duration of project	From 2022-03-15 to 2028-03-14	
Head of project	Prof. dr hab. Marta Szulkin.	
Description of programme/project/undertaking	The proposed research aims to understand (i) the effects of urbanization on the gut microbiota of wild birds and (ii) the effects of gut bacterial communities on their hosts—the Great Tit (<i>Parus major</i>) and/or the Eurasian Blue Tit (<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>)—across an urbanization gradient.	

Position details:

Position title	Assistant Professor
Organisational unit	Faculty of Biology
Employment group	Research
Position profile ²	R2
Academic discipline ³	Biological sciences
Number of positions	1
Form of employment and length of working time (proportionally to full-time employment)	Full-time employment contract
Expected date of commencement of work and employment period	Employment starting from 1 st of October 2026 for 12 months.
Remuneration	Basic remuneration PLN ~7200 gross/month plus the additional annual remuneration, allowance for years of service. More information: link
Other working conditions	- Workplace: Anthropocene Biology Lab, Institute of Evolutionary Biology, Faculty of Biology/Biological and Chemical Research Centre, University of Warsaw. - Career opportunities: More information: link

¹ The nouns used in the announcement apply to people of all genders.

² Complete only in the case of competition for the position in the research employment group or the research and teaching employment group.

³ Complete only in the case of competition for the position in the research employment group or the research and teaching employment group.

Basic responsibilities and obligations	– Conducting scientific research in biological sciences and publishing findings in international scientific journals under the guidance of the project PI – Securing research funding. – Fulfilling other academic teacher responsibilities as required by employment at the University of Warsaw. <i>More information:</i> Scope of responsibilities of the academic teacher
Conditions for entering the competition ⁴	– <i>Fulfill the requirements set out in Article 113 of the Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1571, consolidated text)</i> – 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. – Submit a research plan outlining personal scientific development. – Research expertise (supported by the candidate's publication record) in: ○ Ornithological fieldwork in urban environments ○ Laboratory experience with Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), including preparation of sequencing libraries ○ Analysis of NGS data using R
In addition, we expect ⁵	– Experience in individual supervision and mentoring of students (e.g. supervision of undergraduate or master's theses) and in science communication and public engagement. – Experience in obtaining research funding. – Experience in science outreach activities, such as participation in public engagement events or leading field-based educational activities. – A valid bird ringing licence issued by the Polish Bird Ringing Centre. – Certification authorizing the planning and conduct of animal experiments (training approved by the Polish Minister of Science and Higher Education). <i>If hired, we expect the University of Warsaw to be the primary workplace for the successful candidate.</i>
Criteria for the assessment of candidates in a competition	– Quality of the candidate's publication record. – Experience in securing research funding. – Demonstrated research expertise meeting the requirements specified in the Conditions for entering the competition section. – The extent to which the candidate's profile matches the additional expectations described above. – Originality of the proposed research plans and their potential for further development at the Faculty of Biology, including opportunities for collaboration with research groups in the unit where the successful candidate will be employed. –
<i>Position related/not related⁶ to activities covered by the protection of minors.</i>	

Competition rules:

⁴ Required by the Act, the Law on Higher Education and Science, the Statute of the University of Warsaw, as well as necessary for the position.

⁵ Additional conditions to be met; however, not meeting them will not lead to a negative formal assessment.

⁶ Delete as appropriate.

Announcement reference number	WB-KG-9/2026
Keywords	Microbiome, ornithology, evolutionary ecology, ecological genetics
Deadline for submitting applications ⁷	20/08/2026
Method of submitting an application	Send applications via email to marta.szulkin@uw.edu.pl and the Faculty Dean's Office: dziekanat.biol@uw.edu.pl. Candidates will receive an email confirmation of document submission. If no confirmation is received, please contact the project leader.
Required documents	– Personal questionnaire – available on the Faculty of Biology UW website. – Motivation letter including description of scientific interests and research activity plan. <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. Please, ensure that your application is complete and submitted by the deadline indicated!</i>
The competition is the first stage of the recruitment process, please read the Policy of Open, Transparent and Merit-Based Recruitment at the University of Warsaw link	
Stages of competition	<i>The competition consists of the following stages:</i> – <i>Stage I - formal evaluation of documents,</i> – <i>Stage II - substantive evaluation on the basis of submitted documents,</i> – <i>Stage III - interview with selected candidates, during which the candidate will be required to give a short presentation on their previous achievements and career plans, followed by a Q&A session with members of the selection committee,</i> – <i>Stage IV - final evaluation of competence, experience and scientific achievements,</i> – <i>Stage V - adjudication of the competition and announcement of results.</i>
Anticipated date and method of notification of the competition outcomes	Interviews will take place between the 1st and 4th of September, 2026 (anticipated interview date: 2nd of September 2026). Candidates will be individually notified about their interview schedule with the selection committee. Candidates will be informed of the results via email by the 20th of September, 2026.
Contact for any questions relating to the competition	Via email: marta.szulkin@uw.edu.pl (please include the announcement reference number). Accessibility needs should be indicated on the Candidate's Questionnaire, in: <i>Other relevant information from a candidate</i>

Employing faculty/unit:

Research profile of faculty /unit	The Faculty conducts research across a broad range of biological sciences disciplines. More details are available on the Faculty website .
Teaching profile of faculty/ unit	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> .
Other information	More details can be found on the Faculty website .

The University of Warsaw has implemented the procedure for whistleblowers reporting cases of law violation and for undertaking follow-up actions. For **more information** about this topic and the processing of candidates' personal data please follow the [link](#)

The University of Warsaw is a winner of the HR Excellence in Research award granted by the European Commission to institutions adhering to the European Charter for Researchers.



⁷ Not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the announcement.