



The Rector of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, pursuant to § 14(1) of Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Certain Acts, as amended, announces a selection procedure for filling the position of

Researcher in Evolutionary Biology of Vertebrates.

The Technology and Innovation Park UPJŠ in Košice (TIP) supports and develops workflows with interdisciplinary scientists investigating macroevolutionary phenomena. TIP has a dynamic and expanding multidisciplinary user base, presenting opportunities to evolve this facility and further enhance its cutting-edge research. TIP provides and maintains well-equipped laboratories and runs field exploration programs on a global scale.

Job description

Creative solutions to tasks in the development of science and technology with unspecified outcomes in advance, which are of fundamental importance for the advancement of the scientific field.

We are looking for an ambitious, motivated, and collaborative scientist to work as a member of the Evolutionary Diversity Research Group and the first Slovak Center for Integrative Paleobiology (INPAL). You should be an excellent team player, excited about collaboration, and possess strong professional communication and interpersonal skills.

Candidates who employ quantitative approaches to model the development and evolution of vertebrates, use advanced visualization tools to reconstruct the biological aspects of extinct vertebrates, or study morphological and physiological adaptations and innovations at macro and micro scales are particularly encouraged to apply.

We are seeking a highly motivated candidate to join the team as Assistant to the Head of INPAL. The successful candidate will be expected to raise funding for their own research line within the Research Program of INPAL. We particularly welcome applicants with a broad interdisciplinary approach to paleobiology research, incorporating additional methods from evo-devo biology, biostatistics, computational biology, 3D imaging and image analysis, spectroscopy, or other related fields. This position offers an exciting opportunity for interdisciplinary collaboration and career advancement in a dynamic research environment.

Key responsibilities

- To participate in ongoing and future research projects (including expeditions) within INPAL
- To raise external research funds to develop and implement new interdisciplinary methods and technologies
- To publish research findings in high-profile peer-reviewed journal
- To collaborate with team members, participate in group meetings, and organize seminars and special meetings
- To teach and mentor undergraduate and doctoral students
- To assist the Head of INPAL in maintaining effective lab operations, processing administrative tasks, and organizing professional events of INPAL
- To contribute to the development, progress, scientific achievements, and international reputation of INPAL and
- To engage in outreach activities.

Qualification requirements

Completed third-level higher education (PhD level) or a student in the final year of third-level higher education, provided that the dissertation is submitted for defence by the end of June 2026, in one of the following fields: biology, ecology, physiology, zoology, paleontology, mathematics, bioinformatics, or related disciplines.

Desirable qualifications

- Advanced knowledge of morphology, anatomy, and osteohistology
- Knowledge of microscopy and image analysis (e.g., Adobe Illustrator, CorelDRAW)
- Practical experience with 3D modelling on the Volume Graphics platform – 3D Studio Max
- Publication activity
- Effective communication and teamwork skills, including experience with exploratory work;
- The working language is English (Slovak is equally acceptable)

Additional conditions and requirements

- Employment will be for a fixed weekly working time of 37.5 hours.

List of required documents

- Written application to be included in the selection procedure
- Copy of the certificate, diploma or other equivalent document of the highest achieved education
- Professionally structured curriculum vitae
- Motivational letter stating preferred research focus, research interests, academic achievements and how your expertise aligns with the laboratory's priorities
- Complete list of publications
- Two professional references
- Written sworn declaration of integrity; the successful candidate will be required to submit a criminal record extract not older than three months

Selection procedure

Interview with a selection committee.

Expected start date

Earliest start date September 1st, 2026.

Date and place for submission of application and documents

The deadline for submitting applications is June 12th., 2026. The decisive date is the date shown on the postal stamp, the date of personal delivery of the application, or the date of electronic submission. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Address:

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For questions related to the scientific aspects of the application, please contact the Head of the Centre for Integrative Paleobiology – Assoc. Prof. Martin Kunderát, RNDr., PhD., University Professor: martin.kundrat@upjs.sk

Additional information

Duration of employment: The employment for the position is for 36 months with the possibility of subsequent extension.

Remuneration Salary in accordance with Act No. 553/2003 Coll. on the remuneration of certain employees performing work in the public interest, as subsequently amended.

The funds for this full-time position are available for 3 years initially. This position offers a unique opportunity for interdisciplinary collaboration and career advancement in the field of vertebrate history studies on our planet.

The Technology and Innovation Park of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University supports equality, diversity, and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society. The INPAL provides a collaborative environment with a wide range of developmental opportunities.

Košice 15.04.2026