Open PhD positions in Geomicrobiology

‘Weathering of silicate minerals by iron-metabolizing bacteria’

We are seeking a PhD student to investigate how iron-metabolizing bacteria break down silicate minerals and drive soil formation under different climatic regimes. We will use the Chilean coastal range, one of the most dramatic climate and vegetation gradients on Earth, as a natural laboratory in which to study the abundance and distribution of iron-metabolizing bacteria at different stages of soil formation, as well as laboratory microcosm experiments to study weathering mechanisms in detail. This work is part of the Earthshape project (www.earthshape.net), a large, interdisciplinary consortium of microbiologists, geochemists, geologists, ecologist and soil scientists. This project will provide the candidate many opportunities to be creative and innovative, to work on a challenging and environmentally relevant topic within a large network of international collaborators, and to conduct fieldwork in Chile.

Requirements:

• Strong background in Biogeochemistry and/or Environmental Microbiology
• Ability to work independently and in a team
• Excellent management and communication skills
• Highly motivated for interdisciplinary research
• Good computer and language (English) skills
• Field work experience is essential

Start date for successful applicants is January 2019.

Employment (TVL E13, 75%, 3 years) will be arranged by the University of Tübingen. People with disabilities will be preferred in case of equal qualification.

For more information and to apply, please send a CV, motivation letter and overview of techniques and methods previously used by email before November 1st 2018 to: Dr. Casey Bryce (casey.bryce@uni-tuebingen.de) and Prof. Dr. Andreas Kappler (andreas.Kappler@uni-tuebingen.de).

https://uni-tuebingen.de/de/104138