starting July 2017 at the Collaborative Research Center 806 “Our Way to Europe – Culture-Environment Interaction and Human Mobility in the Late Quaternary” at the University of Cologne (subject to the positive decision of the German Research Foundation). The contract will be funded for 4 years with a weekly working time of 39,80 hours. Payment is based on the German TV-L E13 scale if terms and conditions under collective bargaining law are fulfilled.

Assignments: The CRC project F6 primarily aims at conducting palaeomagnetic dating of sedimentary cores investigated within the framework of CRC 806, focusing on lake sediment cores but involving loess sequences and cave deposits. Palaeomagnetic dating shall involve globally defined geomagnetic field excursions that have occurred over the last 120 ka, broad regional and global trends in directions and relative palaeointensity during the past 250 ka, and smaller-scale regional changes in palaeosecular variation (PSV) over the last 10 ka and potentially beyond. In addition, measurements of rock magnetic palaeoclimate proxies, such as magnetic susceptibility, S-ratio and other grain size and compositional indicators will be conducted on selected records to complement other proxies in reconstructing environmental and climatic histories. Palaeomagnetic measurements will be made using a cryogenic magnetometer (2G Enterprises) at the University of Cologne that will be upgraded with: (a) a long core sample holder; (b) inline three-axis alternating field (AF) demagnetization coils; and (c) a direct current field coil system to impart an anhysteretic remanent magnetization (ARM) allowing determination of relative palaeointensity.

Position: The successful candidate will (i) advise the group members of other CRC projects to take palaeomagnetic samples from sediment cores in the laboratory and sediment sections in the field and (ii) run all palaeomagnetic and rock magnetic analyses at the University of Cologne and potentially at collaborating palaeomagnetic laboratories. In addition, he/she will (iii) coordinate the upgrade of the existing magnetometer, (iv) play a leading role in the interpretation of the data obtained, (v) jointly publish the data with members of the CRC projects that provide the sediment material, and (vi) ensure proper storage of the datasets obtained into the PANGAEA, GEOMAGIA 50, and MagIC databases. This work will to some extent be supported by student assistants.

Qualifications: We are looking for highly motivated, team-oriented candidates with a profound background in palaeomagnetic and/or rock magnetic research. Candidates should hold a PhD in Natural Sciences, preferably in Geosciences or Physics, and have a solid publication record. Running and further developing the palaeomagnetic lab at the University of Cologne requires good analytical experience and management skills. Basic knowledge of German is recommended but not required.

The University of Cologne is an equal opportunity employer in compliance with the German disability laws. Applications of women and disabled persons are particularly welcome.

Interested candidates should send the application package (CV; cover letter describing background, training and research interests; certificates; contact information of two referees) as a single PDF to Prof. Dr. Martin Melles (mmelles@uni-koeln.de) not later than June 1st 2017.

The review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

www.uni-koeln.de