PhD Program between the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB) and the China Scholarship Council (CSC)

Open PhD Position at Freie Universität Berlin, offered only to Chinese CSC scholarship candidates 2020

Please Note: this PhD position is only offered to Chinese PhD candidates for the application in the framework of the FUB-CSC PhD Program.

Department/Institute: BCP, Institute for Biology
Subject area: Evolutionary Biology
Name of Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Jens Rolff
Number of open PhD positions: 2
Type of the PhD Study: Fulltime
Project title: Adapting to the new - invasive predators shaping their new prey

PhD Project description:
In response to globalization, human activities result in the spread of alien species around worldwide habitats. Even though only a minority of invasive species manages to establish and maintain in the new habitats, those that are successful, represent a serious threat to native species and communities. It is well known that invasive species can alter habitats and communities including the extinction of species and collapse of communities. Invasive predators represent a fatal threat to prey, because prey often lack defensive strategies to new predators because of a non-shared evolutionary history. However, very few data are available about prey species being able to adapt to invasive predators and how selection by native and invasive predators differ or resemble in strength and direction. Using damselflies as a model organisms, we like to study the outcome of predator-prey interaction comparing invasive and native predator fish species and their impact on defensive behavioural, morphological and life history strategies.

Language requirements:
IELTS: 6,5 or TOEFL: 95 ibt

Academic requirements:
Master in Biology, prior knowledge in evolutionary biology and/or behavioural ecology.

Information of the professor or research group leader (website, awards etc.):
Please Note: In a first step, the complete application should be submitted to csc@international.fu-berlin.de for evaluation by January 4th, 2020. Please do not contact the professor before. He/she will get in contact with you after having received the complete application via the International Office of Freie Universität Berlin in January.