

Peter Buck Deep Time Postdoctoral Fellowship

Department of Paleobiology, MRC-121
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution, PO Box 37012
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Posting Date: January 16, 2015

Closing Date: February 20, 2015

Applications are invited for a two-year Research Fellowship (postdoctoral) in paleobiological research relating to the goals of the Deep Time Initiative at the National Museum of Natural History, including a 25% time commitment toward advancing science education at NMNH through direct interaction with our public. This appointment provides stipend (\$48 K/yr), benefits, and a research/travel allowance (\$4 K/yr). The successful applicant will be expected to conduct independent macroevolutionary and/or macroecological research through the study of systematics, paleoecology, functional biology, field investigations, etc., and involving NMNH collections. The awardee also will be expected to be involved in the scholarly activities of the department and public outreach in the museum. Priority will be given to proposals that: 1) involve research related to Deep Time over-arching themes, 2) indicate a high standard of research productivity, creativity, and interactivity, 3) provide evidence of ability to communicate science to the public – orally, in writing, through social media, citizen science, etc.

The Deep Time (DT) initiative is focused on understanding connections between 4.6 billion years of environmental change, the diversity of life, and the future of our species on Earth. The four focal themes for our Deep Time research, exhibits, and outreach include: 1) evolution of organisms, 2) evolution of ecosystems, 3) earth processes, 4) connections among these forces including to our human past, present and future. This is a critical time in the history of our planet because one increasingly abundant, heterotrophic species has become a global scale force of rapid environmental and biotic change. Through understanding of the fossil and geological record, the Deep Time Initiative seeks to inform and inspire the global community about connections between the past, present, and future of life on Earth and help create citizens for a changing planet.

Information about the Paleobiology Department and the Evolution of Terrestrial Ecosystems (ETE) Program can be found at <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/paleo//index.html>, the collections at <http://collections.mnh.si.edu/search/paleo/>, and the Deep Time exhibit renovation at <http://www.mnh.si.edu/fossil-hall/>

Applicants should have a proven record of research accomplishment and knowledge of the fossil record. Starting dates for the fellowship are between April 1 and June 1, 2015, and all formal requirements for a Ph.D. must be completed before the end of this time interval. To apply, send: (1) curriculum vitae; (2) pdfs of recent publications (maximum of three); (3) proposed research for the two-year interval (up to 5 double-spaced pages, 11 point type); (4) a 1-page teaching and outreach statement of accomplishments and interests, and (5) two letters of reference submitted separately by the referees.

All application materials should be submitted to Dr. Peter Wagner, wagnerpi@si.edu, in pdf format by **20 February, 2015**. Questions regarding the fellowship should be emailed to Dr. Anna K. Behrensmeyer, behrensa@si.edu or Dr. Brian Huber, huberb@si.edu.

Note that this Fellowship call is separate from the Smithsonian's regular Fellowship Program.

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