

Curriculum Vitae

Laurin Sebastian Kolb

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ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Heidelberg University

Institute of Earth Sciences, Palynology and Paleoenvironmental Dynamics Group
PhD studies, submission of PhD thesis planned for 05/2024

Heidelberg, Germany
10/2020 – 05/2024 (expected)

Title of PhD thesis: *"Ecosystem dynamics during critical periods of early hominin evolution in SE Africa over the past 4 Ma"*
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Jörg Pross, Dr. Andreas Koutsodendris

Heidelberg University

Institute of Geography
M.Sc. Geography (Focus: Physical Geography)
Grade: 1.4 (very good)

Heidelberg, Germany
10/2017 – 10/2020

Thesis title: *"Lake sediments from the Sanxingmei Pond (Taiwan) as an archive of Holocene climate dynamics"* [in German]
Supervisors: Dr. André Bahr, Dr. Bertil Mächtle

University of Göttingen

Institute of Geography
B.Sc. Geography
Grade: 2.3 (good)

Göttingen, Germany
10/2013 – 08/2017

Thesis title: *"Reconstruction of a Pleistocene glacier in Quebrada Cojup, Peru"* [in German]
Supervisors: Prof. Lasafam Iturrizaga, Dr. Michael Klinge

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PhD Student

Heidelberg University, Institute of Earth Sciences, Palynology and Paleoenvironmental Dynamics Group

Heidelberg, Germany
10/2020 – 05/2024
(expected)

- Unravelling terrestrial ecosystem dynamics in southeastern Africa based on sediments from IODP Site U1478. Palynological analysis and leaf-wax-based carbon isotopes. Integration with other paleoclimatological datasets and the regional hominin fossil record

Scientific cruise M195 aboard RV METEOR

- Three weeks; marine coring operations and logistics

Ionian & Aegean Seas, Greece
11/2023

GESEP Summer School

- Two days; principles of scientific drilling

Potsdam, Germany
10/2022

Research visit

University of Notre Dame

- Six weeks; extraction and processing of sedimentary organic biomarkers using column chemistry

South Bend, USA
05/2022 – 07/2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (continued)

Scientific cruise EUROFLEETS+ aboard RV AEGAEO

- Ten days; marine coring and seismic logging operations

SW Aegean Sea, Greece
09/2021 – 10/2021

Research visit

National Taiwan University

- Six weeks; coring of peat bog, core description, sampling and XRF measurements for MSc thesis

Taipeh, Taiwan
09/2019 – 10/2019

Student Research Assistant

Heidelberg University, Institute of Geography, Laboratory for
Geomorphology and Geoecology

- Laboratory and field work, including coring campaign

Heidelberg, Germany
08/2019 – 10/2020

SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

Laboratory and analytical skills:

- Palynological preparation of sediment samples
- Palynomorph identification and counting, interpretation of palynological data (regional focus on SE Africa)
- Column chemistry for extraction and purification of organic biomarkers from marine sediments
- Measurement, processing, and interpretation of grain-size data
- Processing and interpretation of XRF data

Software skills:

- Programming in R: Intermediate skills, including data processing, multivariate statistics, pollen-based quantitative climate reconstructions, time-series analysis
- QGIS (Geographical Information System): Advanced skills
- Microsoft Office: Advanced skills

Personal Strengths:

- Excellent communication skills
- Strong interpersonal relationship skills in international environments, team player
- Very good project-management skills

Languages:

- German (native language)
- English (fluent)
- Italian (Level B1)
- Spanish (Level A2)

CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Kolb, L., Koutsodendris, A., Berke, M., Taylor, A., Pross, J. (2023): Terrestrial ecosystem change during critical periods of early hominin evolution in SE Africa over the past 4 Ma. *INQUA Conference 2023*, Rome, Italy.

Kolb, L., Koutsodendris, A., Berke, M., Taylor, A., Pross, J. (2022): Ecosystem change in SE Africa during critical periods of early hominin evolution between 4 and 1.8 Ma. *IODP/ICDP Colloquium 2022*, Potsdam, Germany.

Macho, G., Neubauer, S., Kuykendall, K., Berke, M., Hopley, P., Koutsodendris, K., **Kolb, L.**, Caley, T. (2022): The Taung Child revisited. *East Africa Association for Paleoanthropologists & Paleontologists (EAAPP) Conference*, Arusha, Tanzania.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Koutsodendris, A., Dakos, V., Fletcher, W.J., Knipping, M., Kotthoff, U., Milner, A.M., Müller, U.C., Kaboth-Bahr, S., Kern, O.A., **Kolb, L.**, Vakhrameeva, P., Wulf, S., Christanis, K., Schmiedl, G., Pross, J., 2023. Atmospheric CO₂ forcing on Mediterranean biomes during the past 500 kyrs. *Nature Communications* 14, 1664.