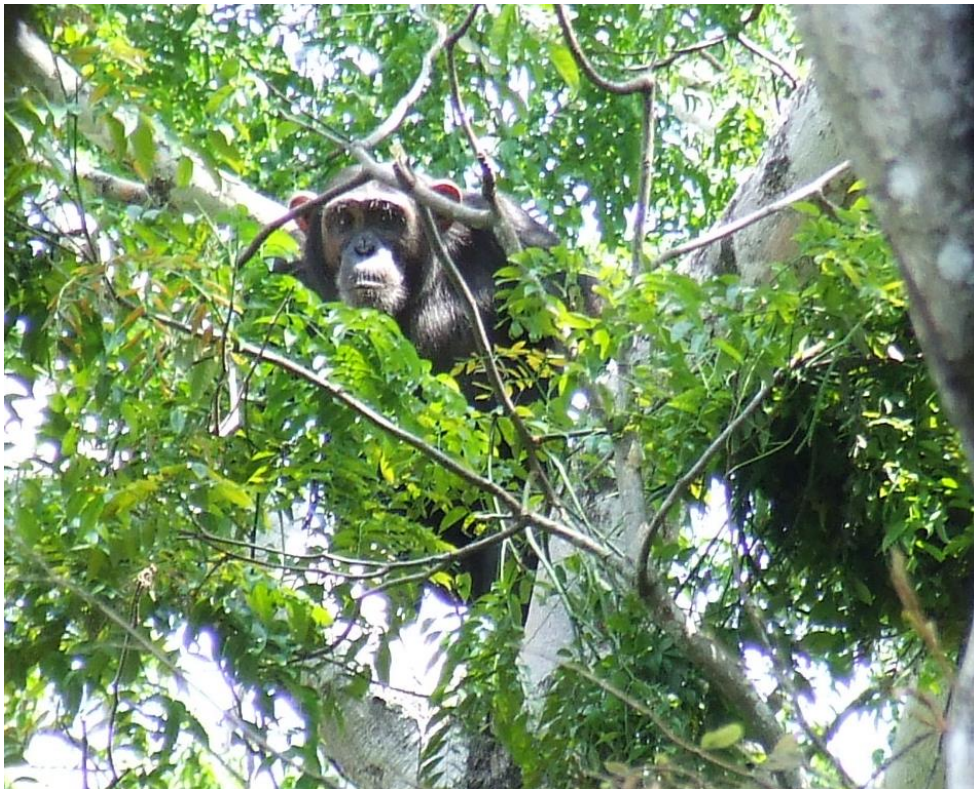


Ph.D. position to study chimpanzees in the Ituri Forest, DR Congo!

Ph.D. position in the OPUS project (National Science Centre, Poland)

Based at The Faculty of Artes Liberales, University of Warsaw

GROUND-NESTING IN NORTHERN DRC CHIMPANZEES: ENVIRONMENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL INFLUENCES



Bili-Gangu chimpanzee and tree nest. Cleve Hicks, The Wasmoeth Wildlife Foundation, 2007.

Study field: chimpanzee material culture, evolution of hominin culture, nest making in great apes, tool use

General theme: Nest-making in Northern DRC chimpanzees, with a focus on ground nesting and tool use. Data will be compared between sites previously surveyed in Bili-Uéré with new data collected together with Dr. Thurston C. Hicks on a survey project in Ituri Forest, DRC. We will be looking at the effects of culture, social structure, habitat-type, large predators, humans and climate on tool use and ground nesting, in addition to documenting for the first time the traditions of the Ituri Forest chimpanzees.

Job description:

- Conduct 3-year Ph.D. research project on factors effecting nest-making in Ituri
- Collect direct and indirect behavioral data on a chimpanzee population inhabiting the Ituri Forest, DRC
- Aid in collection of basic scientific data at the Ituri field site (climate data, DNA samples)
- Manage camera traps
- Forest chimpanzees
- Writing manuscripts, documenting and analyzing results



Collecting data on ground nests, Bili-Gangu 2012

Institution: The Faculty of Artes Liberales, The University of Warsaw, Poland

Requirements:

- Master's degree in evolutionary biology, anthropology, primatology or relevant degree
- Fluency in English, written and spoken
- At least basic abilities in spoken French (for DRC fieldwork)
- Ability to work in challenging field conditions in a tropical Congolese forest
- A strong interest in primate behavior and its relevance to human evolution
- Candidate should be able to work independently as well as part of a team

Offer

Ph.D. scholarship = 2000 PLN (approx. 472 Euros) monthly for 36 months, plus all living / travel expenses covered for the 6 month field trip. The Ph.D. candidate will be encouraged to write grants for further funding. Funds will also be made available for attending scientific conferences.

Interested?

Please email your (1) CV, (2) a letter of motivation including relevant experience, (3) two letters of reference from academic referees, (4) copies of scientific contributions (articles, conference presentations, etc), (5) a copy of the MSc degree or equivalent to Dr. Thurston Cleveland Hicks (clevehicks@hotmail.com)

Deadline for application

The documents should be combined into a single PDF file and emailed by 31 May 2018 (midnight 23:59 CET) with the subject “Opus PhD application”.

The pre-selected candidates can be invited for an interview through Skype during the first half of June 2018, with a possible later meeting in person.

The position will begin on 1 September 2018.

For more information, email Dr. Thurston Cleveland Hicks, clevehicks@hotmail.com



Gangu Forest chimpanzees, 2012, E. Mpaka, Lukuru Foundation