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| **Project Title** | **Project summary** | **Project detail** | **Selection criteria** | **Outcomes for the intern** |
| **Estimating Body Mass in Mesozoic Mammals****Supervisor:**Elsa Panciroli | This project explores estimations of body mass in extinct mammals from the time of dinosaurs, the Mesozoic. It uses a dataset of measurements from extant mammals, and formulae established for calculating body mass based on those measurements, to test hypotheses about the limb / dentary ratios in extinct species, particularly in one of the earliest-diverging and ecologically diverse mammaliaform clades.  | In order to accomplish this, the intern will:* Develop hypotheses about the body proportions of extinct mammal groups
* Explore existing methods for body mass estimation
* Gather limb bone, dentary, molar row and tooth measurements from the literature.
* Study scans of fossil specimens in the UK, including those in the museum
* Explore the datasets, using simple analyses to test hypotheses on ratios and proportions
* Write a report of the project for funders
* If desired, contribute to writing up the results for publication in a scientific journal
* Full training will be given
 | Essential* Excellent attention to detail
* An organised and methodical approach
* Strong self-motivation and ability to work independently without close supervision and as part of a team
* Good communication skills

**Desirable*** Strong interest in working in evolutionary biology/ ecology/palaeosciences
* Familiarity with Microsoft Office applications, in particular Microsoft Word and Excel
 | * Gaining skills in compiling and using large datasets to test scientific hypotheses
* Familiarity with literature on body mass estimation and Mesozoic mammals
* Co-authorship on any publication(s) to result from the work
* Particularly valuable for students interested in a PhD/career in research
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