

Jason Dunlop

I am the curator of arachnids and myriapods at the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, a post which I have held since 1997. I graduated in zoology at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom followed by a PhD and postdoctoral work in palaeontology at the University of Manchester. My main research interests are thus fossil arachnids, and their relatives, and their significance for understanding arachnid evolution, as well as comparative anatomy of arachnids and other arthropods. I am also interested in collection history and in documenting the Berlin collection in a historical context. Research highlights include the discovery of the world's oldest harvestman, the discovery of the remarkable primitive tailed spiders in Burmese amber and the discovery of the oldest spider from the Carboniferous of Germany. Current projects include the study of several spider-like arachnids from the Carboniferous to try and reconstruct the origins and early evolution of the spiders.

Among my contributions to the wider arachnological community, I am part of the editorial team of the *Arachnologische Mitteilungen* from the German-speaking society, where I primarily act as language editor for English contributions. I am the Secretary of the *International Society of Arachnology* running their membership database and mailing list, and I have been a council member of the *European Society of Arachnology* for several years, first as Vice-President and currently as Membership Secretary where my principal role is again administering the member's database. I would be happy to continue in this role and further serve the European Society in this capacity.