

ESA Council candidteship

Jason A. Dunlop

I am curator of arachnids, myriapods and stem-group arthropods at the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin. I studied zoology at the University of Leeds and completed a PhD in palaeontology at the University of Manchester under the supervision of Paul Selden, where I also undertook postdoctoral research. I moved from the UK to Germany in 1997 and have been in Berlin ever since. My research interests are fossil arachnids and their role in understanding the evolution of arachnids and their relatives through comparative morphology. Highlights include the discovery of the oldest harvestman from the Devonian of Scotland and description of the primitive 'tailed spiders' from Burmese amber.

I am active in a number of arachnology societies, and have been Secretary of the International Society of Arachnology for more than 20 years. In the European Society of Arachnology I have been a council member for a similar number of years, and am a former Vice-President of the society. My current role is **Membership secretary**, responsible for maintaining records of members and managing the database associated with the website. I am also part of the editorial team of the journal *Arachnology Letters* produced by the Arachnologische Gesellschaft. I am particularly keen on facilitating international contacts and communication between arachnologists and see the European Society as an excellent way to do this.