



## Press Release

**Dr. Karl Guido Rijkhoek**  
Director

**Antje Karbe**  
Press Officer

Phone +49 7071 29-76788  
+49 7071 29-76789

Fax +49 7071 29-5566  
karl.rijkhoek[at]uni-tuebingen.de  
antje.karbe[at]uni-tuebingen.de

[www.uni-tuebingen.de/aktuell](http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/aktuell)

### €1.5m ERC Starting Grant for Stephan König

**Geoscientist comes to Tübingen to investigate links between processes inside the Earth and in the atmosphere**

Tübingen, 4 March 2015

Dr. Stephan König receives a €1.5m European Research Council grant over five years for the project: From the origin of Earth's volatiles to atmospheric oxygenation (O2RIGIN). The grant will enable him to establish his own research unit. Grants are awarded on the basis of excellent research and innovative potential. König chose Tübingen because it offered the chance to work with Ronny Schönberg, Professor of Isotope Geochemistry.

König's project will investigate mineral samples to find out how processes inside the Earth have affected the atmosphere. "We are especially interested in the movement of tectonic plates, volcanism, and the creation of new continents," says Stephan König. "How have these processes influenced or driven the enrichment of oxygen in the atmosphere over the course of the Earth's history?"

Dr. Stephan König studied Geology in Münster and completed his doctorate in Mineralogy at the University of Bonn in 2010. He was a postdoc in Bonn and Cologne from 2011-13, working on a DFG-sponsored project on volatiles as key building blocks of the Earth. After carrying out research in the US, UK and France, König has been establishing his own isotope geochemistry working group as part of the University of Tübingen's Geoscience department.



Photo: Friedhelm Albrecht

<http://www.geo.uni-tuebingen.de/arbeitsgruppen/mineralogie-geodynamik/forschungsbereich/isotopengeochemie/mitarbeiter/stephan-koenig.html>

**Contact:**

Dr. Stephan König

University of Tübingen

Faculty of Science

Geoscience Department

Phone 29 73076 29-76788

[stephan.koenig@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:stephan.koenig@uni-tuebingen.de)