RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN FORAMINIFERAL MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The University of Cologne is one of the largest and most research-intensive universities in Germany, offering a wide range of subjects. With its six faculties and its interfaculty centres, it offers a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines and internationally outstanding profile areas, supported by the administration with its services.

The Hess Laboratory studies 'protoplast feeders', eukaryotic microbes that perforate cell walls of algae/fungi and feed on the prey cell content. Vampyrellid amoebae and flagellates (Idionectes, Orciraptor) are our laboratory models to elucidate the molecular mechanisms behind this highly specialised feeding strategy. The candidate will produce, characterise and localise CAZymes from several protoplast feeders, shed light on their role in prey cell wall dissolution, and - at the same time - explore new microbial proteins.

YOUR TASKS
» Cloning, expression and purification of proteins
» Enzyme assays (activity, substrate specificity)
» Establishment of new assays with biological substrates (e.g. purified prey cell walls)
» Immunocytochemistry, confocal microscopy, and electron microscopy (optional)
» Scientific presentations at conferences and preparation of manuscripts

YOUR PROFILE
» Master's degree in Biology (or equivalent degree)
» Experience in protein biochemistry/mol. biology
» Good written and spoken English
» Background in CAZyme research or host-pathogen interactions is appreciated, but not mandatory

WE OFFER YOU
» a young and innovative lab connecting explorative microbiology with state-of-the-art experimentation
» a diverse and fair working environment
» support in reconciling work and family life
» flexible working time models
» extensive advanced training opportunities
» occupational health management offers
» local transport ticket at a discount for UoC employees

The position is available from now on a part-time basis (65% / 25.89 hours per week). It is limited to 30.04.2022 with the possibility of extension. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary is based on remuneration group 13 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

The University of Cologne is committed to equal opportunities and diversity. Women are especially encouraged to apply and will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from people with disabilities / special needs or of equal status.

Please apply online at: https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de with proof of the sought qualifications (including a motivation letter). The reference number is Wiss2003-19. The application deadline is 15.04.2020. For further details please contact: Dr Sebastian Hess (sebastian.hess@uni-koeln.de).