



At the institute of Microbiology in the faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf a post as a

PhD Student (m/f/d)

(65 %, pay grade 13 TV-L)

is to be occupied at the earliest possible date. The employment is initially limited for a period of 12 months with an option for prolongation. It is a qualification position in the sense of the Act of Academic Fixed-Term Contract (Wissenschaftsvertragsgesetz -WissZeitVG), which is to promote the scientific qualification of the employee.

Within the framework of CRC1208, we study the novel process of endosomal mRNA transport in the model microorganism *Ustilago maydis*. This essential cellular transport mechanism is conserved in fungi as well as plants and is important for neuronal functions in humans. Therefore, it is important to uncover its fundamental mechanism. In this project, we are going to address, how the key protein of mRNA movement is linked to transport endosomes. To reach this goal we will combine structural biology and cell biological experiments including comprehensive biochemical purification and detailed fluorescence microscopy.

We offer an exceptional scientific environment with the opportunity for integration in our structured graduate programme (iGRAD) at Heinrich Heine University.

The aim of the project is to uncover specific endosomal interactions of protein/RNA complexes. We will use a broad spectrum of cell biological microscopical as well as membrane biochemical techniques. Apart from a very high motivation in experimental work, we expect independent literature searches as well as writing of scientific manuscripts on the topic. The project is part of the Collaborative Research Centre CRC1208 including the graduate school "MBTrain". We expect high motivation to actively participate in the respective courses and training programme. We also expect a willingness to participate in the teaching obligations of the Institute for Microbiology.

The successful candidate has an exceptional Master degree or Diploma in Biology or related life sciences. A high interest in eukaryotic model microorganisms is desirable. Knowledge in membrane biology and a strong interest in biochemical approaches are of advantage.

Practical experience in biochemistry, molecular biology and microbiology is a requirement. Furthermore, we expect excellent knowledge in English and the capacity to work in a team.

The pay scale grouping will be, depending on the personal qualification of the applicant, up to pay grade 13 TV-L.

In principle, the employment can also take place part-time, if no compelling official reasons are opposed in an individual case.

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf aims at increasing the percentage of employed women. Applications from women will therefore be given preference in cases of equal aptitude, ability and professional achievements unless there are exceptional reasons for choosing another applicant. Applications from suitably qualified severely disabled persons or disabled persons regarded as being of equal status according to Book IX of the German Social Code (SGB – Soziales Gesetzbuch) are encouraged.

Your contact person in case of questions is Prof. Michael Feldbrügge; email: feldbrue@hhu.de; phone number: +49 211 81-15475.

Please submit your application documents (cover letter, CV, certificates, additional letters of recommendation or rather contacts) citing **reference number 159.20 – 3.1** until **01.02.2021**

preferably by email to:
feldbrue@hhu.de

or in writing to:

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
Institute of Microbiology
Building 26.24.01
Attn. Prof. Feldbrügge
Universitätsstr. 1
D-40225 Düsseldorf



Please do not submit application materials in folders and be sure to send copies only, as documents will not be returned (they will be destroyed after the selection procedure has been completed).