The Centre for Biomolecular Drug Research at the Leibniz Universität Hannover invites applications for two

PhD positions in structural biology

(EntgGr. 13 TV-L, 50%)

starting as soon as possible. The posts are for three years.

Research description

The successful candidates will work in the NMR-based Structural Chemistry group of Prof. Teresa Carlomagno. The group studies RNA-protein complexes involved in RNA metabolism and enzymatically active proteinprotein complexes. We combine multiple structural biology techniques, including NMR spectroscopy (both solution- and solid-state), X-ray crystallography, EPR, SAXS, SANS and mass spectrometry, to solve the active structures of large and dynamic biomolecular complexes. Available research projects include investigation of the structure and activity mechanisms of protein complexes involved in the regulation of gene expression and of enzymes that synthesize bioactive natural products in microorganisms (non-ribosomal peptide synthases). The tasks of the postdoctoral scientist will include sample preparation, biophysical characterization of in vitro-assembled complexes (for example by means of ITC, analytical ultracentrifugation and light-scattering), development and application of NMR experiments, structure determination and computational modelling.

Facilities & instrumentation

The Carlomagno group has access to laboratory space and instrumentation both at the Centre for Biomolecular Drug Research (BMWZ) of the Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH) and at the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI) in Braunschweig. The NMR laboratory at the BMWZ comprises an 850-MHz spectrometer equipped with a solution-state HCN He-cooled probe and a 600-MHz NMR spectrometer equipped with solution-state HCN MAS probe. The BMWZ offers fully equipped laboratories for molecular biology, cell biology and biophysical measurements. In addition, the group has exclusive access to a 600-MHz spectrometer at the HZI, equipped with solution-state HCN He-cooled and solid-state HCN MAS probes. High-field and proton-detected solid-state NMR experiments are recorded at European facilities or in collaboration with national and international partners. The group also has access to the crystallization facilities at the HZI.

Qualifications & experience

The successful candidate will have a Master's degree in in molecular biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, physics or a related field. The candidate has received extensive training in biomolecular chemistry, biomolecular NMR spectroscopy or structural biology.

Strong organizational and communication skills, the ability to work in an international environment, and a deep interest and enthusiasm for fundamental research are essential.

As an equal opportunities employer, Leibniz Universität Hannover intends to promote women in the context of statutory requirements and encourages applications from qualified female scientists. Equally qualified applicants with disabilities will be given preferential treatment.

To apply, please email a cover letter, CV (in English) and contact information of three referees to:

Prof. Dr. Teresa Carlomagno teresa.carlomagno@oci.uni-hannover.de

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The application deadline is 28.07.2017. Informal enquires are welcomed and can also be directed to the email address above.