



PhD position in molecular neurobiology

A PhD position is available within the DFG-funded Research Unit FOR 2419 “Plasticity versus Stability: Molecular Mechanisms of Synaptic Strength”. The position will be at the [Institute of Developmental Biology and Neurobiology of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz](#) in the group of Prof. Martin Heine (Project 4). The research unit FOR 2419 is coordinated by Prof. Matthias Kneussel and is an interdisciplinary neurobiology research initiative with 6 projects, mostly at the UKE Hamburg. Within project 4 we will work together with Prof. Kay Grünewald at the CSSB in Hamburg to investigate the structure and function of contact zones between the cell membrane and intracellular compartments. We apply innovative techniques, such as time-lapse imaging of single molecules in combination with functional imaging of calcium or neurotransmitter release and electrophysiology to investigate the molecular, structural and functional changes that determine synaptic strength and network connectivity. Further details are available at the following link: <https://www.uke.de/FOR2419>.

Subject to approval, the PhD student positions are guaranteed for three years (65 % German TV-L West scale 13).

Qualifications and Experience

We seek a highly motivated applicant with a passion for neuroscience who hold a Master’s degree in biology or other fields of natural sciences. Some prior experience in one or more methods of molecular and cell biology, biochemistry, electrophysiology, optogenetics, or imaging techniques such as confocal live imaging, STED, PALM, cryo electron microscopy or tomography are desirable. Excellent oral and written English communication skills and the ability to efficiently integrate in an interdisciplinary and multinational research team are expected.

Benefits

When selected, you will join a team that is closely collaborating with national and international partners. You will participate in seminars, workshops and courses offered at the UKE or at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, while benefitting from the excellent working conditions and access to cutting-edge research facilities. Mentoring will be provided by your thesis committee and additional programs.

Your Contact Persons: Prof. Martin Heine, marthein@uni-mainz.de or Dr. Eva-Maria Suciú, eva-maria.suciu@zmnh.uni-hamburg.de.

We offer a work environment that offers everyone the same chances, regardless of age, sex, sexual preference, disability, ethnic background or religion. We are actively trying to increase the number of women in senior roles, especially in research and teaching. In the event of equal levels of qualification, preference will be given to female candidates. The same rule will apply to all genders when one gender is deemed to be under-represented in the department relevant to the available position. Severely disabled applicants with essentially identical technical and personal suitability will be preferentially selected.

To apply

Please submit your application including a brief statement of research interests, Curriculum Vitae, publication record, transcripts and degree certificates together with the contact details of two referees compiled into a single PDF file (<5 MB) to Ellen Lugert (lugert@uni-mainz.de) and to Dr. Eva-Maria Suciú (eva-maria.suciu@zmnh.uni-hamburg.de). Applications will be considered until **May 31, 2019**.