

## Job Advertisement No. 22/2017

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute –** (HKI, [www.leibniz-hki.de](http://www.leibniz-hki.de)) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel antibiotics. The independent research group of **Biobricks of Microbial Natural Product Syntheses** invites applications for a

# Postdoc position

in the field of Synthetic Microbiology starting on 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2018 for three years initially.

The successful candidates will be involved in the heterologous expression, purification and characterization of novel sphingolipid inhibitors obtained by refactoring of fungal biosynthetic pathways. The successful candidate will work within a research project funded by the Free State of Thuringia.

**Our requirements:** We expect a PhD in Life Sciences (e.g. Chemistry, Microbiology, or Biochemistry) with a strong background in analytical chemistry. Experience in microbiology is advantageous but not required. As a Postdoc, the applicant should have excellent communication and collaboration skills and should be able to supervise students. We are requiring a good attitude in performing team-oriented as well as independent scientific work.

**The field of work includes:** the heterologous expression of synthetic pathways in model organisms (e.g. *Aspergilli*) and the identification and isolation of modified compounds. The project aims to study the evolution of sphingolipid inhibitor biosynthetic pathways in fungi and to exploit their natural variability to obtain molecules with novel activities.

**We offer:** The successful candidate will be hosted in the group Biobricks of Microbial Natural Product Syntheses (Dr. Vito Valiante), which is an independent research group at the HKI. The HKI is embedded in the outstanding scientific environment of the Beutenberg Campus providing state-of-art research facilities and a highly integrative network of life science groups. We offer a multifaceted scientific project supported by excellent technical facilities, a place in a young, committed team, as well as strong scientific collaborations. As a Postdoc you will benefit from the extensive qualification program of the Graduate Academy of the Friedrich Schiller University.

Salary is paid according to German TV-L (salary agreement for public service employees). The HKI is an equal opportunity employer.

For further Information please contact Dr. Vito Valiante ([vito.valiante@leibniz-hki.de](mailto:vito.valiante@leibniz-hki.de), +49 3641 532 1090).

Complete applications in English should include a motivation letter, curriculum vitae, a brief statement of first research experiences, the address of at least two possible referees, full academic record (copies of certificates), and should be submitted by **January 5, 2018** via the **online application system** of the HKI.