

Job Advertisement No. 26/2017

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute –** (HKI, www.leibniz-hki.de) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel antibiotics. The Department **Infection Biology** encourages talented and highly gifted candidates to apply for a

2 Doctoral Researchers (m/f) Infection Biology

for two years initially.

Successful candidates will investigate the field Complement Evasion of pathogenic microbes including *Candida albicans* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

Main topics of the project are:

- Characterisation of fungal, pneumococcal and malaria immune evasion proteins
- How do microbial proteins influence adaptive immune response?
- Functional characterization of FHR1 and FHR5 recruitment by pathogenic microbes

For further details please see literature below.

Our requirements: A Master degree in biology, genetics or life sciences. Experience, knowledge and good experimental skills in cell and molecular biology, genetics and biochemistry are of advantage.

We offer: The successful candidate will be hosted in the department Infection Biology (Prof. Zipfel; Prof. Skerka). 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 an international, committed team, as well as strong scientific collaborations. Doctoral researchers will be integrated in one of the established graduate schools, ILRS or JSMC, which offer additional mentoring support and provide additional training through a structured onsite program. Training will include key areas of science and technology, and complementary skills. Furthermore 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). As an equal opportunity employer the HKI is committed to increase the percentage of female scientists and therefore especially encourages them to apply.

For further information:

Prof. Dr. Peter Zipfel | +49 3641 532 1300 | career@leibniz-hki.de

Prof. Dr. Christine Skerka | +49 3641 532 1164 | career@leibniz-hki.de

Applications:

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 15, 2018** via the **online application system** of the HKI.

Literature:

Zipfel PF, Hallström T, Riesbeck K (2013) Pathogenic microbes - Tipping the balance. *Mol Immunol* 56:152-160.

Hallström T, Siegel C, Mörgelin M, Kraiczy P, Skerka C, Zipfel PF (2013) CspA from *Borrelia burgdorferi* inhibits the terminal complement pathway. *mBio* 4, pii: e00481-13. doi: 10.1128/mBio.00481-13.

Luo S, Hoffmann R, Skerka S, Zipfel PF (2013) Glycerol-3-phosphate Dehydrogenase 2 Is a Novel Factor H, FHL-1 and Plasminogen Binding Surface Protein of *Candida albicans*. *J Infect Dis* 207: 594-603.

Zipfel PF, Skerka C (2009) Complement regulators and inhibitory proteins. *Nat Rev Immunol* 9, 729-740.

