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## Job Advertisement HKI-40/2020

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute** (Leibniz-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 natural product-based antibiotics. Talented and highly qualified candidates are invited to apply for a position in a newly established **Junior Research Group** of **Dr. Matthew G. Blango** as a

# Doctoral Researcher (f/div/m) in the RNA Biology of Fungal Pathogens

for four years. The anticipated start date is December 1st, 2020.

**Research Areas:** Microbiology, Mycology, RNA Biochemistry

This project will be funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) as part of a newly established research group that will bring together the study of pathogenic fungi, RNA biology, and extracellular vesicles to better understand and treat fungal infections.

**The field of study:**

The successful candidate will investigate the field of fungal pathogenesis through the lens of RNA biology. The main topics of the project may include:

- Elucidation and characterization of novel RNA regulatory pathways in filamentous fungi.
- Investigation of the role of regulatory RNA in fungal innate immunology.
- Development of potential RNA-based therapeutics against fungal infection.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in microbiology, biochemistry, mycology, or related discipline. Candidates about to obtain their degree are welcome to apply.
- Experimental background in molecular biology, microbiology, and/or biochemistry.
- The candidate should be willing and able to work in an international, interdisciplinary research team.
- Very good communication skills in English.

**We offer:**

The successful candidate will be hosted in the newly established **Junior Research Group** of **Dr. Matthew G. Blango**. The aim of the group is to conduct innovative, cutting-edge research on fungal pathogenesis with a focus on extracellular vesicles and RNA biology. The Leibniz-HKI is embedded in the outstanding scientific environment of the Beutenberg Campus providing state-of-the-art research facilities and a highly integrative network of life science groups. The PhD candidate will participate in the structured program of the **International Leibniz Research School** and become an associated member of the **Jena School of Microbial Communication**.

The Doctoral Researcher project is part of the Graduate School Scholarship Program of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Eligibility regulations for the DAAD fellowship apply (no residence in Germany for more than 15 months at the start of the fellowship). As an equal opportunity employer, the Leibniz-HKI is committed to increasing the percentage of female scientists and therefore especially encourages them to apply.

**Further information:**

Dr. Matthew G. Blango | +49 3641 532 1072 | [career@leibniz-hki.de](mailto:career@leibniz-hki.de)

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### Applications:

Complete applications in English should include a cover letter (with a statement of motivation for applying to the position and a brief summary of research experiences), a CV with a complete list of publications, and the addresses of two possible referees. Applications should be submitted by **October 30, 2020**, via the Leibniz-HKI **online application system**, but applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis.

