

Job Advertisement No. HKI-25/2018

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute** – (Leibniz-HKI, www.leibniz-hki.de) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel natural product-based antibiotics. The **Department of Microbial Pathogenicity Mechanisms** (www.leibniz-hki.de/en/microbial-pathogenicity-mechanisms.html) invites applications for one

Doctoral Researcher (f/m) (FungiNet)

in the field of Microbiology / Infection Biology / Cellular Microbiology.

The project will be co-financed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and related to the CRC/TR 124 – FungiNet – Pathogenic fungi and their human host: Networks of interaction (see project C1 in: www.funginet.de).

Project background – Fungi infect billions of people annually, kill as many people as tuberculosis or malaria and are a major problem for healthcare. *Candida albicans* is a major opportunistic fungal pathogen and frequently causes superficial or even fatal infections. However, most humans are asymptotically colonised by this fungus as a part of their commensal microbiota. We are a leading research group in the investigation of *Candida* spp. pathogenicity mechanisms including their interaction with immune cells, their nutrient acquisition strategies, their evolution and adaptation in pathogenicity, the mechanisms involved in the commensal-to-pathogen shift and their capacity to cause host damage (see: www.leibniz-hki.de/en/mpm).

In this project, the successful applicant will use our sophisticated *in vitro* and *ex vivo* model systems to investigate important aspects of *C. albicans*' interaction networks during commensalism and pathogenesis, focussing on the direct interaction of *C. albicans* with host epithelial cells. The overarching goal is to elucidate the pathogenicity mechanisms which lead to host damage.

Candidate's profile – We expect a Master's degree (or equivalent) in Life Sciences (e.g. Biology, Biochemistry, or Microbiology). Furthermore, the applicant should be able to perform team-oriented as well as independent work. Practical experiences in one or more of the following subjects are beneficial: Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Infection Biology, Cell Biology. Practical experience in cell culture, microarrays or fungal genetics is an advantage.

We offer – a doctoral researcher position for at least three years. The successful candidate will be hosted at the Department of Microbial Pathogenicity Mechanisms (MPM) at the Leibniz-HKI. The institute 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 further offer a multifaceted scientific project with excellent technical facilities, a place in a young, committed team, as well as strong scientific collaborations. Furthermore, the successful candidate will be integrated into one of our graduate schools: ILRS (www.ilrs.de) or JSMC (www.jsmc.uni-jena.de) and will take part in the extensive local training programmes.

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

For further information: Please contact Prof. Bernhard Hube | +49 3641 532 1401 | career@leibniz-hki.de

Applications - Complete applications in English should include a CV, a complete list of publications, a brief statement of research experiences, the addresses of two possible referees, and should be submitted by **31.12.2018** via the [online application system](#) of the HKI.