



iDiv

German Centre for Integrative
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)
Halle-Jena-Leipzig

External Job Advertisement
Reg.-Nr. 4-15439/20-D

iDiv, the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research Halle-Jena-Leipzig, invites applications to 5 doctoral researcher positions in its 6th flexpool call from spring 2021 onwards (see overview in published flexpool general announcement).

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, offers the following position at the earliest possible starting date and initially limited until 30th September 2021:

Doctoral Researcher (m-f-d) on the flexpool project 1: “Epigenetic factors as molecular drivers of microbial biodiversity”

as part-time employment (65 %), an extension for further 2.5-3 years is possible and dependent upon successful renewal of DFG funding for iDiv (evaluation in spring 2021).

The salary will be up to Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L, if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled. The workplace will be at MLU Halle, Institute of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences, Chair of Phytopathology and Plant Protection.

The project:

The project will study epigenetic control of mechanisms involved in formation of microbial consortia. The WT and epigenetic mutant strains of the plant pathogenic fungus *Colletotrichum graminicola* will be allowed to establish confrontations with rhizosphere and epiphytic microorganisms, as well as microbes used in biological control of plant diseases. Changes in secondary metabolite gene expression, secondary metabolite formation and inhibitory activity of microbes and chemistries will reveal mechanisms of confrontation. The project is supervised by Professor Holger Deising, Professor François Buscot, Professor Ivo Grosse, Dr Henriette Uthe and Dr Anna Heinz-Buschart.

Tasks:

- Establishment of confrontation cultures
- DNA-/RNA-sequencing, RT-qPCR analyses, secondary metabolite extraction, targeted gene deletion in fungi
- Writing and publishing scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals
- Presenting results at national and international conferences
- Active participation in the yDiv graduate school
- Qualification goal: PhD

Requirements:

- M.Sc. or equivalent scientific university degree in a project-related field (e. g. genetics, microbiology, phytopathology, biochemistry, ecology, molecular biology)
- Expertise and experience in microbiological / molecular techniques
- Interest and ability in interaction biology



- Statistical skills (in R)
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Team-oriented and strong organizational skills

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg gives priority to applications from severely disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to Mrs. Christa Genz (christa.genz@idiv.de), for project-related questions, please contact Professor Holger B. Deising (holger.deising@landw.uni-halle.de).

Submission deadline is 27th January 2021. Selected candidates will be invited to the online Flexpool recruitment symposium on 23rd and 24th February 2021.

All applications should include:

- Cover letter describing motivation for the project, research interests and relevant experience
- complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- digital copy of master certificate or equivalent

Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 4-15439/20-D, via our application portal at <https://apply.idiv.de>. While we prefer applications via this portal, hard-copy applications may also be sent to: German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (Halle-Jena-Leipzig), Mrs. Dr. Christa Genz, Puschstraße 4, 04103 Leipzig.

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions. Application portfolios will not be returned, application costs will not be reimbursed.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.