To foster research excellence and in line with the expansion of the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HiPS), the interdisciplinary area at the interface between bioinformatics, computer science, drug development, pharmacy, and medicine should be further strengthened. This research area at Saarland University stands out by highly intensive collaborations between the involved institutes, disciplines, and departments, which became manifest in several major joint research projects. These close and long-standing collaborations also include affiliated research institutions of the Helmholtz and the Leibniz Association as well as of the Fraunhofer and the Max Planck Society.

The Computer Science Department at Saarland University stands out by excellence in research and teaching demonstrated continuously by top positions in relevant rankings. The Center for Bioinformatics Saar (CBI) of Saarland University, where the new professorship will be established, encompasses six working groups whose research focus is on the development of bioinformatics approaches for issues emerging in pharmacy and medicine.

The research of the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HiPS), established in 2009 by the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HIZ) in Braunschweig and Saarland University, focuses on the development of novel anti-infectives. HiPS is the first public non-university research institute in Germany explicitly devoted to the pharmaceutical sciences.

The Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science at Saarland University invites applications for the following position:

**W2 Tenure Track (W3) Professor in Data Driven Drug Development**

(Reference Number W1904)

The position is a fixed-term (6 years) W2 tenure-track professorship with the possibility for promotion to a tenured W3 if excellent performance in research and teaching will be confirmed by an evaluation. The professorship should build a bridge between the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science and the HiPS and should also foster the collaboration between Saarland University and HiPS. To this end, the professorship will be affiliated with and also supported by the Helmholtz Institute HiPS in terms of additional budget for scientific staff and research equipment.

In the drug development process, chemo- and bioinformatics approaches have been successfully applied for decades where the areas of application range from the identification of drug targets and virtual screening to the prediction of ADME-Tox properties. In the last two years, novel deep learning methods have led to impressive progress not only for the protein structure prediction problem, but also in the area of virtual drug screening. Candidates should have a high level of expertise in computer-aided drug development, artificial intelligence, and machine learning demonstrated by publications in international top journals and conferences. Furthermore, we expect that candidates should build an internationally leading research group in the field artificial intelligence for drug development within the next five years.

The appointments will be made in accordance with the general provisions of German public sector employment law. Candidates must have experience in and an aptitude for academic teaching. They will have a PhD or doctorate in an appropriate subject and will have demonstrated a particular capacity for independent academic research, typically by having obtained an advanced, post-doctoral research degree (Habilitation) or by having been appointed to a junior professorship. We expect candidates to have published high-quality academic papers on relevant topics and to have experience in securing external funding especially for research projects. The successful applicants are also expected to contribute innovative teaching concepts at all academic levels (Bachelor’s, Master’s and doctoral programmes), to teach in English and, to provide dedicated supervision to students working on their final-year theses and to support and foster junior researchers.

We are looking for internationally highly visible candidates with outstanding achievements in research and teaching who will contribute significantly to the progress of ongoing and the establishment of new interdisciplinary and cross-faculty collaborative projects in the area of drug development.

At Saarland University, we view internationalization as a process spanning all aspects of university life. We therefore expect members of our professorial staff to engage in activities that promote and foster further internationalization. Special support will
be provided for projects that continue with or expand on collaborative interactions within existing international cooperative networks, e.g. projects with partners in the European University Alliance Transform4Europe (www.transform4europe.eu) or the University of the Greater Region (www.uni-gr.eu).

In accordance with the objectives of its affirmative action plan for women, Saarland University is actively seeking to increase the proportion of women in this field. Qualified women candidates are therefore strongly encouraged to apply. Preferential consideration will be given to applications from disabled candidates of equal eligibility.

Gender equality is an important concern for the institutions, in which future job holders will be involved.

We support you with offers for balancing family and career. We offer flexible working hours, different variants of part-time employment as well as support in the case of childcare or the need for care of relatives. Family time is taken into positive consideration as part of the selection decision.

Please submit your application until 25th July 2021 online via the Saarland University applications portal by: www.uni-saarland.de/Berufungen. Application documents must be uploaded as a PDF file (max.10MB) including the following documents: Cover letter (addressed to the Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, Univ.-Prof. Dr. Thomas Schuster), curriculum vitae (with private address, incl. telephone and email address), official certificates, list of publications, an overview of teaching and research activities to date (incl. teaching evaluations, if available), amount and type of third-party funding acquired, teaching and research concepts in each case of two pages, and your three most important publications of the last five years.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung (www.uni-saarland.de/datenschutz). By submitting your application, you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.