Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university’s mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment. [Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany’s family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4,000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.]

The research group for RiPP natural products is inviting applications for the following position commencing at the earliest opportunity.

**Academic research assistant (m/f/x)**

**Reference number W2000**, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale, pay grade: 36 months, employment: 55% of standard working time.

**Workplace/Department:**
Your workplace will be in the group of Dr. Julian Hegemann in cooperation with the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS). The research project involves the study of bacterial RiPP natural products in the context of the human microbiome and focuses on the identification, investigation, and optimization of compounds with selective antimicrobial properties. The overarching goal of this project is the development of novel and selective antibiotics. In addition, the roles of these compounds in nature and their effect on the human microbiota ought to be investigated. The research in the framework of this project may serve as a basis for obtaining a PhD degree.

**Job requirements and responsibilities:**
- Isolation and structure elucidation of RiPP natural products
- Production of natural products through the heterologous expression of biosynthetic gene clusters
- Identification of new RiPP natural products through (meta)genome mining
- Structure-Activity-Relationship (SAR) studies
- Mode-of-Action (MoA) studies

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1 TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German Länder
The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.
Your academic qualifications:
- Completed scientific university studies in chemistry, biology, pharmacy or any relevant field (master’s degree or equivalent).

The successful candidate will also be expected to:
- Have already gathered experience in the fields of biochemistry and/or molecular biology
- Have proficient English language skills
- Advantageous for this position: Expertise in the fields of natural product analytics (HPLC, mass spectrometry, etc.) and natural product genome mining

What we can offer you:
- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services (‘Jobticket’)

We look forward to receiving your online application (in one pdf-file). Please quote reference number W2000 when applying at julian_david.hegemann@uni-saarland.de Applications must be received by no later than 01 December 2021

If you have any questions, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:
Herr Dr. Julian Hegemann
Julian_david.hegemann@uni-saarland.de

In accordance with the objectives of its equal opportunities plan, Saarland University seeks 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. The successful candidate has the option of choosing to work part-time in this position.

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale.

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. By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.