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Zukunft!



UNIVERSITÄT
DES
SAARLANDES

Foto: Oliver Dietze

Saarland University is a campus university with an international reputation for research excellence, particularly in computer science and in the life sciences and nanosciences. The university is also distinguished by its close ties to France and its strong European focus. Around 17,000 students, studying over one hundred different academic disciplines, are currently enrolled at Saarland University. Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Department of Internal Medicine III – Cardiology Research Lab is inviting applications for the following position commencing 01 November 2022

Academic research assistant (m/f/x)

Reference number W2158, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale¹, pay grade: E13 TV- L, duration of employment: 38 months, volume of employment: 65 % of standard working time.

Workplace/Department:

The position is offered by the group of Priv.-Doz. Dr. med. Christian Werner / Prof. Dr. Michael Böhm in the Cardiology Research Lab on the Homburg Campus of Saarland University. The group is seeking a motivated candidate for an interdisciplinary translational project. This project is part of a consortium investigating "Mechanisms of Cardiovascular Complications in Chronic Kidney Disease" (URL: <https://www.sfb-trr219.de/>). We are interested in understanding the molecular mechanisms of cardiorenal interaction in chronic renal and cardiovascular disease, focusing on myocardial fibrosis, senescence and the role of the bone marrow. Particularly, we implement our expertise and that of our collaborators to address how the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone-system (RAAS), cellular ageing and the Raf kinase inhibitor protein (RKIP) contribute to uremia-induced organ remodelling. The scientist will be able to use different mouse strains, subjected to an established renal damage model. He will test different pharmacological stimuli, exercise, bone marrow transplant and other models to measure the effects of RAAS and eNOS modulation on adverse cardiovascular remodeling and senescence in chronic kidney disease. In the second part of the project, he will decipher the effects of genetic modulation of the RKIP on these processes, using a conditional knock-out model. The main analyses will be on a functional, histological and molecular level and include cell culture assays and patient samples.

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.

Job requirements and responsibilities:

- Conducting experiments planned for the second funding period of project M-06 within the SFB TRR219 consortium.
- Data analysis and presentation in regular internal group meetings as well as in regular meetings of the consortium.
- Actively participate in design of experiments and adjusting project plans according to obtained results.
- Standard good practice in the lab and maintenance of lab equipment.
- Stringent documentation of experiments and cooperation with the SFB's data manager
- Support practical courses in the lab by offering technical support to students and participation in the efforts of the IRTG associated with the SFB TFF 219.
- Preparation of animal testing applications
- Preparation of abstracts or scientific meetings
- Participate in publication of data and manuscript preparation.

Your academic qualifications

- MSc or an equivalent qualification in biology, immunology, pharmacy or closely related disciplines ("post-doc" preferred)

The successful candidate will also be expected to:

- Have excellent spoken and written German skills. Good English skills are preferable.
- Have basic knowledge about physiology of kidney, heart and circulating cells.
- Be able to perform statistical evaluation of data, critically analyse own data and consider the necessary controls for validation experiments.
- Have experience with animal experiment planning, handling, injections, operations and be able to isolate organs and cells from experimental animals (after receiving the necessary training in the lab).
- Candidates with experience in conditional knock-outs (Cre/Lox) or CRISPR-Cas9 are preferred
- Candidates with good experience in standard histology as well as immunostaining are preferred
- Have sufficient experience in standard molecular biology techniques.
- Have experience in cell culture and flow cytometry.
- Actively participate in scientific discussions about own and other colleagues' projects.
- Be a skillful user of standard data and text editing software (Word, Excel, Powerpoint etc).

What we can offer you:

- Exciting work on a clinically relevant project in a stimulating environment in direct vicinity to patient care (research lab facilities within the IMED building).
- Performance and analysis of animal models simulating kidney and heart diseases (adenine diet, 5/6 nephrectomy, transaortic constriction, myocardial infarction) including small animal echocardiography, haemodynamic testing, endothelial function and an established bone marrow- transplant model for mice in the Cardiology lab.
- A broad spectrum of methods for studying organ and cell interactions, circulating cells and cellular senescence
- Benefit from strong collaborations within the SFB consortium with access to technologies such as confocal imaging, single cell sequencing, cardiac electrophysiology, digital pathology and many more.
- Integration into a graduate school programme (IRTG) that offers tailored interdisciplinary training, scientific and social activities and mentorship for future career development.
- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- 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 ('Job-Ticket Plus' of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **(written) application**. Please quote **reference number W2158** when applying. Applications must be received by no later than **31 August 2022** and should be sent to the following address:

Universität des Saarlandes

Sekretariat Mrs. Anja Zickwolf / PD Dr. med. Christian Werner

Innere Medizin III - Kardiologie, Angiologie und Internistische Intensivmedizin

Kirrberger Str., Geb. 41/IMED)

66421 Homburg

Email: anja.zickwolf@uks.eu

Application documents will not be returned. Please only submit copies of your documents and do not use plastic wallets, folders, ring binders, etc.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Select an element. Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Tel.: Click here to enter text.

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. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at <https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung>.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

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.