Universität Hamburg invites applications for a Research Associate for the project “CU-TRADE - Chemical Uncoupling of Growth-Defense-Tradeoffs” in accordance with Section 28 subsection 3 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG). The position commences on April 16, 2018 the earliest.

It is remunerated at the salary level TV-L 13 and calls for 65 % of standard work hours per week*. The fixed-term nature of this contract is based upon Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act (Gesetz über befristete Arbeitsverträge in der Wissenschaft, WissZeitVG). The term is fixed for a period of 3 years.

The University aims to increase the number of women in research and teaching and explicitly encourages women to apply. Equally qualified female applicants will receive preference in accordance with the Hamburg act on gender equality (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HmbGleiG).

**Responsibilities:**
Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates can also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications.

**Specific Duties:**
Survival rate in the presence of pathogens and biomass production determine plant productivity. In this project chemical genetic screens will be performed on a well-established model system for autoimmunity to find chemicals that uncouple growth-defense-tradeoffs in plants. These substances will keep immune responses high, but allow for wildtype-like growth. The PhD student in this project will optimize the effect of these substances by organic chemical synthesis in the lab of Prof. Dr. Chris Meier at the Department of Chemistry and search for the plant receptor(s) of a given CU-TRADE chemical.

**Requirements:**
A university degree in a relevant field. We are seeking for a highly motivated PhD student with knowledge in and practical experience with the basic methods of organic chemistry, molecular biology, and protein biochemistry. Additional experience in organic chemical synthesis would be a plus. The ability for teamwork, a good level of independence as well as high enthusiasm for science are the most important attributes.

Severely disabled applicants will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.
For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. Stefan Hoth (stefan.hoth@uni-hamburg.de) or consult our website at https://www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/forschung/molekular-und-zellbiologie/molpflphys.html.

Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s). The application deadline is March 10, 2018. Please send applications to: stefan.hoth@uni-hamburg.de.

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