Group Leader Position in Plant Chromosome Biology

The Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research (MPI PZ) in Cologne has an opening for a 5-year group leader position in the field of plant genetics. The institute is a major site in Europe committed to basic research in plant science. The working language is English.

The department of Chromosome Biology, headed by Raphael Mercier, opened in August 2019. Four teams focus on the study of meiosis and recombination, with complementary aims and approaches (molecular mechanisms of meiosis, evolution of meiosis, meiosis in crops and computational genetics). The department of Chromosome biology is looking for a group leader who would set up a team with complementary research interests. The ideal applicant would have an outstanding track record in related fields and at least 2 years postdoctoral experience. She/he would have demonstrated an ability to pursue an innovative and internationally competitive research programme. Applications are invited from individuals with an interest in subjects closely or more remotely related to the molecular biology of chromosomes, the role of recombination in evolution or the control of reproduction for plant breeding.

The group of the successful applicant is expected to be initiated in 2020 and will be supported by a technician, a postdoc, a student and running costs from the Institute’s core budget. She/he is also expected to attract external funding. The group will benefit from an excellent infrastructure including large plant growth facilities, in-house sequencing and computational facilities, a phenotyping robot as well as confocal and super-resolution microscopes. The salary will be according to German civil service conditions (TVöD Bund) and includes social security benefits.

The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals. Furthermore, the Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.

Candidates should send their curriculum vitae including a full list of publications, names of three referees, selected articles, and a ~2-page resume of future research interests to: application-gl-mercier@mpipz.mpg.de

Assessment of applications will begin on 6th of January 2020, candidates are thus advised to apply by this date.