PhD position in Plant Molecular Biology

Cell organelles are the "activity centres" of eukaryotic cells. Peroxisomes play very important roles in ROS metabolism, photorespiration and fatty acid b-oxidation, and new functions and mechanisms, for instance in plant innate immunity, are continuously uncovered (Reumann et al., 2016; Sørhagen et al., 2013). Coordinated biogenesis and degradation of peroxisomes are essential for organismal vitality. Much knowledge has been gained in the past few years on protein import mechanisms into peroxisomes in yeast and animals but our knowledge for plants is still incomplete.

The new project deals with the investigations of important aspects of protein import into Arabidopsis peroxisomes at the molecular level and their relationship to plant innate immunity. Important cellular mechanisms of protein delivery to peroxisomes shall be investigated by a broad set of methodologies including microscopy (fluorescence and confocal microscopy), protein-protein interaction studies, cell biology and biochemical methods, reverse genetics and structural biology. The tasks of the research associate include participation in teaching in the department of 2 semester hours per week.

Requirements: A university degree in a relevant field. A M. Sc. degree in Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology or a closely related subject is prerequisite for employment. Experience in Arabidopsis growth and analyses, bacterial pathogen assays, transient and stable protein expression in plants and bacteria as well as good theoretical and practical knowledge in molecular biology, bioinformatics, microscopy and molecular genetics are advantageous.

Responsibilities: Associates will be expected primarily to teach and conduct research. The associate will also have the opportunity to pursue further academic qualifications, in particular a doctoral dissertation. At least one-third of set working hours will be made available for the associate's own academic work.

Faculty/Department: Mathematics, Informatics, Natural Sciences/Biology
Seminar/Institute: Biocenter Klein Flottbek/Plant Biochemistry and Infection Biology
Start: August 1st, 2016.
Salary level: TV-L 13, 50% of standard work hours per week.*
Duration: 3 years

The position is offered in accordance with Section 28 subsection 1 of the Hamburg Higher Education Act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG). 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 Equality Act (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HmbGleiG). Severely disabled applicants will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. S. Reumann (email: sigrun.reumann@uni-hamburg.de; Tel.: +49(0)40/42816-743) or consult our website at https://www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/pflanzenbiochemie). Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s). The application deadline is June 15, 2016. Please send applications to: Professor Dr. Sigrun Reumann, University of Hamburg, Biocenter Klein Flottbek, Dept. Plant Biochemistry and Infection Biology, Ohnhorststraße 18, D-22609 Hamburg, Germany.

* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.