Researcher position: Third-Party Funding and Technology Transfer

Place: University of Potsdam, Germany

Description
A full-time position is available from 1. November 2017 to support the Department of Molecular Biology within the PlantaSYST project. The position is initially limited to a five year period with the possibility of extension.

The EU-funded PlantaSYST project supports the establishment of the Center of Plant Systems Biology and Biotechnology (CPSBB) in Plovdiv, Bulgaria (www.cpsbb.eu). CPSBB’s mission is to position itself at the forefront of plant sciences in Bulgaria. This will be achieved by building on the research and technological excellence of two partners from Potsdam, Germany: The University of Potsdam and the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology. The PlantaSYST project will undertake efforts to attract additional funding from third parties, including national and international funding agencies, foundations, other institutions, and companies, and will promote the establishment of all forms of knowledge and technology transfer.

Job brief
We are looking for a candidate with proven expertise in project management and acquisition of third-party funding to organize and coordinate such activities within the PlantaSYST project.
You will provide strategic guidance and practical support to project leaders and their teams in ways that promote the PlantaSYST funding. You will also closely collaborate with the newly established Departments ‘Funding’ and ‘Technology Transfer, Start-up Support, Commercialization, IP-Management, and Communications’ of the CPSBB.

Responsibilities
- Contribution to the development of a third-party funding strategy for the CPSBB
- Support of third-party funding activities
- Contact and communication with stakeholders
- Coordination of activities for technology transfer together with partners of the Potsdam Transfer unit (http://www.potsdam-transfer.de/transfer)
- Support of activities for the commercialization and IP management of CPSBB research
- Support of project management for the PlantaSYST subproject at the University of Potsdam

Requirements
The applicant should hold a doctoral degree in plant/algal biology, biochemistry, biotechnology or related fields including synthetic biology. We are seeking a candidate with proven knowledge and experience in technology transfer and acquisition of third-party funding for research organisations. The candidate will also be able to develop efficient strategies for communications, networking and policy liaison to develop a close network of stakeholders outside of the scientific community and attract additional funds in order to ensure sustainability of the CPSBB.
Excellent communication skills in English are mandatory.

Offer
The University of Potsdam hosts leading groups in the field plant molecular biology. The Department of Molecular Biology (headed by Prof. Dr. Bernd Mueller-Roeber) focuses on plant transcription factors involved in abiotic stress responses, the control of plant development by environmental stress, and synthetic biology. The Department has a close collaboration with the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology located at the nearby Science Campus Golm.
Potsdam is an attractive historical city and its palaces are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Potsdam is located close to Berlin, a culturally vibrant city. Both cities have a high quality of life at modest living costs.

The salary is determined by the collective bargaining agreement for public employees in Germany (TV-L 13 Ost). The position is temporary and limited to a term of 5 years in accordance with Section 2 subsection 1 of the Academic Fixed-Term Contract Law (WissZeitVG). The University of Potsdam strives to maintain gender balance among its staff. Severely disabled applicants shall receive preference in case of equal qualification.

How to apply
Please send your application as a single PDF document including: (1) a statement of your motivation to apply for the job, (2) a full CV, (3) the names and e-mail addresses of at least two referees, (4) academic transcripts, (5) list of publications and oral presentations, (6) a documentation of your expertise in technology transfer and/or project management by October 30th 2017 to katrin.czempinski@uni-potsdam.de.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us or check the department and project websites:
Department of Molecular Biology: http://www.uni-potsdam.de/ibb-molecularbiology/research-overview.html
PlantaSYST: http://plantasyst.eu/
CPSBB: http://cpsbb.eu/

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