

PhD Position in Comparative Venomics

In the interdisciplinary Animal Venomics group based at the Institute for Insect Biotechnology, Justus-Liebig-University Gießen, a PhD position is available as soon as possible for three years (Experience depending the salary band will be TV-H 13, 65%) within the German Science Foundation funded project:

Venom evolution in solitary and eusocial aculeate hymenopterans

Tasks

- Working in the project that focuses on comparative venomics and toxin evolution of social and solitary bees and wasps. One aim is to understand better processes that drive toxin evolution in hymenopterans. Genomes will be complementary analyzed to proteomics and transcriptomics data to tackle this major aspect.
- Proteomics is in parallel conducted via collaborations, depending on the results activity tests and assays are planned for some interesting toxin candidates.
- The project-work allows to conduct a PhD within this project.

Demanded skills and profile:

- Applicants should hold a Diploma/Master degree in Biology or related natural sciences
- Candidates should be highly motivated and should have a background in evolutionary biology, trait evolution and/or venomics
- Proven background in transcriptomics and genomic work and analyses is necessary
- Bioinformatics skills are important, experience in Perl or Python of advantage
- Candidates should be self-organized but as well team players, good communication and English skills are important, the major tongue in the Animal Venomics group is English.
- Fieldwork experience and taxonomic knowledge of hymenopterans is a further asset
- Laboratory experience in RNA extraction, library reconstruction and/or HMW DNA extraction and general knowledge in proteomic work (HPLC, and MassSpec) is an advantage.

We offer a unique opportunity to grow and participate in an integrative environment within the new Animal Venomics group creating workflows comprising genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and protein characterization with evolutionary and applied perspectives. The **main PI in this project is Dr. Björn M. von Reumont.**

Gießen is a vibrant student town at the river Lahn in the green heart of the State Hessen, very central in Germany. Other, old university cities like Marburg or Wetzlar are located within 20 km. The metropolis Frankfurt with its large international airport is roughly 50 km away and its center can be reached from Gießen within 40 minutes by regional trains.

Please send applications without photograph and without date of birth as single PDF file including a CV (with two references), certificates, motivation letter (≤ 1 page) with additionally a short summary of previous work and applied methods (≤ 1 page), and one reference letter to: Bjoern.Von-Reumont@agrar.uni-giessen.de.

The JLU Gießen promotes equal opportunities and diversity in its employment relations. Women are expressly encouraged to apply and given priority in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act. We expressly welcome applications from individuals with severe disabilities or people of equivalent status. Severely disabled applicants of equal merit and qualifications will be given priority.

Application deadline is the **07.06.2019**