



Job Announcement

Young, modern, and research-oriented... the University of Potsdam has firmly established itself within the scientific landscape since its founding in 1991. Nationally and internationally renowned scientists teach and perform research here at Brandenburg's largest university. The University of Potsdam is successful in acquiring third-party funds, delivers outstanding performance in technology and knowledge transfer, and has a very service-oriented administration. With about 21,000 students studying at three campuses – Am Neuen Palais, Griebnitzsee and Golm – the University of Potsdam is a prominent economic factor and engine of development for the region. The University of Potsdam has a total of over 3,000 faculty and staff members and is located in one of Germany's most scenic areas.

The **University of Potsdam, Biological Physics Group, Institute of Physics and Astronomy**, invites applications for the following position **subject to funding commitment**:

Academic Staff Member (Postdoc) Requisition No.: 414/2020

The position is available as soon as possible. The salary is determined by the collective bargaining agreement for public employees in Germany (TV-L 13). The position is for 40 hours per week (100 % of a full-time contract). This is a temporary position limited to a term of 3 years in accordance with Section 2 subsection 1 of the Fixed-Term Employment Contracts in Science and Research Act (WissZeitVG). There is the opportunity for habilitation. If applicable, there is the possibility of an extension if the personal and tariff requirements are met.

Location: The Golm Campus of the University of Potsdam is a recently established, rapidly growing science campus. With its direct train connections to the Potsdam and Berlin city centers, it offers attractive options for living in the beautiful Potsdam neighborhoods or in the larger Berlin metropolitan area.

Summary: Numerous cellular functions, such as cell motility, division, and phagocytosis, depend on coordinated actions of the actin cytoskeleton that are tightly orchestrated in space and time. In recent years, it became increasingly clear that this is achieved by remarkable features of self-organization, such as self-sustained oscillations or excitable wave patterns in the actin system. The study of spatiotemporal patterns in the actin cortex is thus a fundamental prerequisite to understanding life at the cellular level. This interdisciplinary research field at the interface of physics and biology relies on challenging live cell experiments that are combined with concepts from nonlinear dynamics and pattern formation and aims at the long-term goal of understanding and, ultimately, controlling and guiding actin-mediated cellular functions *in vivo*.

Job description: We are seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral researcher to support our experimental team that investigates spatiotemporal actin patterns at the subcellular level. We work with the social amoeba *Dictyostelium discoideum* and combine live cell imaging with different micromanipulation techniques on the one hand and theoretical modeling on the other to perform quantitative single cell experiments. Besides a strong focus on his/her own research activities, the candidate is expected to oversee and coordinate the cell and molecular biology activities of the group, and to support the projects of bachelor's, master's, and PhD students in this field. The candidate is also expected to actively participate in regular teaching activities, preferentially in German language.

Qualifications: Applicants are required to have well-established experience in molecular cloning and a solid training in cell and molecular biology, experience in *Dictyostelium* biology is preferred. An additional background or interest in biological physics is advantageous as the applicant is expected to work in a multidisciplinary, physics-oriented environment. Candidates should have demonstrated outstanding performance during their PhD studies including an excellent publication record. High intrinsic motivation, analytical thinking, and the ability to work independently are essential. Additionally, we expect good communication and team-work skills as well as an excellent level of English.

We offer you varied and challenging tasks in a dynamic team as well as attractive working conditions. Find out more about the wide range of offers and benefits for our employees on the internet at <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/arbeiten-an-der-up/>. For further insights into the University of Potsdam, please visit our homepage at <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/>.

Under the laws of the federal state of Brandenburg, employees under this contract are permitted to dedicate at least 33% of their contract time to their own academic qualification.

The University of Potsdam aims to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and therefore invites qualified female applicants to apply. The University of Potsdam values the diversity of its members and pursues the goals of equal opportunities regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, sexual orientation or identity. In the case of equal suitability, women within the meaning of Section 7 (4) BbgHG (Brandenburg Higher Education Act) and people with severe disabilities will be given preferential consideration. Applications from abroad and from persons with a migration background are expressly welcome.

The number of teaching hours complies with the applicable provisions of the Teaching Obligation Ordinance (Lehrverpflichtungsverordnung, or LehrVV) of the federal state of Brandenburg as well as the teaching load regulations approved by the Senate of the University of Potsdam: http://www.uni-potsdam.de/fileadmin01/projects/verwaltung/docs/Dezernat3/Merkblatt_LehrVV.pdf

This position is assigned to the group of academic staff with the possibility of qualification (habilitation)“.

Please send your CV, a letter of intent, and the names and addresses of three references to Prof. Carsten Beta (biophys@uni-potsdam.de) by January 15th, 2021 at the latest with the subject line, “Academic Staff Member (Postdoc) – 414/2020”.

Potsdam, December 16, 2020