Master student/student assistant (d/f/m) - Structural Cell Biology of Viruses -

The Heinrich Pette Institute - Leibniz Institute for Experimental Virology (HPI), is committed to research on the biology of different human viruses as well as the pathogenesis of viral diseases (http://www.hpi-hamburg.de). The HPI offers the opportunity to perform cutting-edge research in a world-class research environment with excellent facilities. We are seeking a highly-motivated student assistant in the research group “Structural Cell Biology of Viruses” (head: Prof. Dr. Kay Grünewald) with the possibility to combine it with a master’s thesis. Our group is an international group with English as the official language. The Grünewald’s lab is located in the newly established Centre for Structural Systems Biology (CSSB; www.cssb-hamburg.de) on the Bahrenfeld-DESY Campus in Hamburg and has access to state-of-the-art facilities for light and electron cryo-microscopy.

Project title: “Spatio-temporal reorganization of cells during viral assembly”

The project includes optimization of protocols for growing and infecting cells on grids using micropatterning and preparing lamella of cells by cryo-focused ion beam milling prior to electron cryo-tomography to study the assembly of herpesvirus (HCMV). After successful protocol optimization, events of interest will be analyzed by electron cryo-tomography together with the supervisor(s) and the student will be involved in adapting existing workflows for tomogram reconstruction, segmentation and sub-volume averaging. The project is carried out in collaboration with the lab of Ileana Cristea at Princeton University.

We offer:
- Intellectual and practical supervision by a postdoctoral research fellow and a PhD student
- Independent conduction of the experiments of the research project
- Teaching of state-of-the-art technologies in cell biology, structural virology and electron cryo-microscopy
- Student assistant salary (6 months)

We seek:
- A highly motivated, team-oriented student assistant and/or master student with interest in virology, structural biology and electron cryo-microscopy and a good command of English language

If you are interested in undertaking a student assistant position and/or master thesis in the research group “Structural Cell Biology of Viruses” and have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Emmanuelle Quemin (emmanuelle.quemin@leibniz-hpi.de) or Kay Grünewald (kay.gruenewald@leibniz-hpi.de). The anticipated start date of the project is as early as possible. Late applications will be considered until the position is filled.

The Heinrich-Pette-Institute promotes the professional equality between all genders. Handicapped applicants with equal qualifications will be given preferential treatment.

Please send your application with a short cover letter and CV by May, 31st 2021 via email to:

Heinrich Pette Institute, Leibniz Institute for Experimental Virology
Personnel Department
Martinistraße 52, 20251 Hamburg
e-mail: personalabteilung@leibniz-hpi.de