

The **Institute of Molecular Infection Biology**, University of Würzburg is offering
**ERC-funded Postdoctoral and PhD Student positions (f/m/d)
in Microbiology/Molecular Biology/RNA Biology**

“Exploring the expanding universe of RNA-binding proteins in bacteria”



We are looking for postdoctoral researchers and PhD students in the field of **Microbiology / Molecular Biology / RNA Biology** to work on the discovery and characterization of bacterial RNA-binding proteins (RBPs) in our ERC-funded research project “**bacRBP**” at the Department of Molecular Infection Biology II (Prof. Dr. Cynthia Sharma) in Würzburg, Germany. Research in our group focuses on mechanisms and functions of gene regulation in stress response and virulence control of the human pathogens *Helicobacter pylori* and *Campylobacter jejuni*. For further information on our research, please see for example our recent publications: Jiao et al., 2021, *Science* (PMID: 33906967), Pernitzsch et al., 2021, *Nature Communications* (PMID: 34290242), Eisenbart et al., 2020, *Molecular Cell* (PMID: 33002424), or our website: www.imib-wuerzburg.de/research/sharma/.

In our recently awarded ERC project “**Exploring the expanding universe of RNA-binding proteins in bacteria**” (**bacRBP**) we aim to explore the identity and functional diversity of RNA-binding proteins in bacteria.

Successful candidates will:

- Develop innovative approaches to globally capture RBPs in bacteria
- Elucidate bacterial RBPomes during stress- and infection-relevant condition
- Identify mechanisms and cellular functions of RBPs in bacteria, with a focus on unconventional RBPs

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- PhD/doctoral degree (for postdoctoral fellows) or M.Sc. (for PhD students) in a life science field
- Research background in RNA biology, microbiology, molecular biology, biochemistry, or genomics
- Strong written and spoken English language communication skills, high-self motivation and dedication to perform excellent research

We offer:

- An interdisciplinary and international research team
- An open-minded and collaborative work environment with a strong focus on RNA and infection biology
- State-of-the-art infrastructure and cutting-edge technologies
- Diverse opportunities for further education, career development, and training at the JMU Würzburg

We welcome applications from all sections of the community regardless of race, gender, or disability. The University aims to increase the proportion of female employees. Thus, applications from qualified women are particularly welcome. Preference will be given to severely handicapped persons in case of otherwise equal aptitude. The position is available for an initial period of one year with the possibility of extension for another four years. Salary is based on the pay scale for the public sector (TV-L).

Please send your application including a letter of motivation, CV, and publication list, copies of relevant documents, and contact information of two academic references as a **single PDF-file** until **July 20th, 2022** via email to petra.thomas@uni-wuerzburg.de. For informal inquiries contact Prof. Cynthia Sharma (sharma.ngs@uni-wuerzburg.de).

