



Position Opening

To strengthen our team, the Chair of Plant Ecophysiology (Botany II) at the Julius von Sachs Institute, Julius-Maximilians-Universität (JMU) Würzburg is inviting applications for a

Doctoral / PhD position (m/f/d)

The position is available from March 2024 and is intended to result in a Doctor of Natural Sciences degree (*Doktor der Naturwissenschaften*). Payment will be based on the collective agreement for the public service of German federal states, TV-L.

Many plants enhance access to limiting nutrients by establishing root symbioses with mutualistic microorganisms. The project will be in the context of legume root symbiosis with rhizobial bacteria and arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi. Using cutting edge molecular genetic approaches, we investigate how a host plant balances its own resource status and development with root symbiosis. In particular, we are interested in the genetic control of symbiosis, and the roles of micro RNAs as mobile regulators in this context.

The successful candidate will work on her/his own research topic under the guidance of a postdoctoral researcher in the lab. She/he will participate in the local journal and progress seminars and, eventually, in writing publications and a doctoral thesis. Visiting national and international conferences and workshops is encouraged. The candidate will also be involved in the groups' teaching efforts and help tutoring junior students.

You will be embedded in an internationally active and visible research group. We have a vivid communication and discussion culture, and invite applications from highly motivated individuals that wish to contribute to a positive team spirit. Both national and international applicants are welcome.

Candidates are further encouraged to join the Graduate School of Life Sciences (GSLs) at Würzburg University, which offers various training as well as networking and support opportunities: <https://www.graduateschools.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/life-sciences/>.

Qualifications:

- A Master of Science degree in biology or a related discipline in the natural sciences
- An enthusiasm for the field of molecular symbiosis research
Practical experiences in this field or with other plant-microbe interactions and/or sRNA-based regulation are welcome but not required.
- Proficiency in written and spoken English will be helpful
- Good ability to work within a team, good communication skills and a high level of motivation

The JMU is an equal opportunity employer. As such, we explicitly encourage applications from qualified women. Severely handicapped applicants will be given preferential consideration in the case of broadly equal suitability, ability and professional achievements.

We accept applications until **Jan. 5th, 2024** or until the position is filled. Please submit your application and supporting documents to Katharina Markmann, preferably by email in one single PDF file: katharina.markmann@uni-wuerzburg.de.

Additional information is available at <https://www.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de/en/bot2/>.

For information about the beautiful wine-growing city Würzburg, check: <https://shorturl.at/BGX78>.