



CEPLAS

Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences

The Cluster of Excellence on Plant Science (CEPLAS) and the Botanical Institute at the University of Cologne invites applications for a **PhD position in Plant Biochemistry** starting February 1st, 2020. The position is available for 36 months, the salary is based on the German E13 TV-L scale (60%) if terms and conditions under collective bargaining law are fulfilled.

Project description:

Primary metabolites, such as amino acids, often function as signals to trigger transcriptional responses in plants. One of such signal molecules is the precursor of cysteine, O-acetylserine (OAS), which links the three assimilatory pathways of carbon, nitrogen, and sulfur. The level of OAS regulates expression of a group of genes, so called “OAS cluster” genes. The aim of this project is dissecting the physiological role of the proteins encoded by the OAS cluster genes and characterization of the molecular mechanisms of the signaling and regulatory role of OAS in plants. The project is a part of German-Polish funding initiative BEETHOVEN LIFE in collaboration with Max Planck Institute for Molecular Plant Physiology Golm (Dr. Rainer Höfgen) and Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics of Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw (Prof. Agnieszka Sirko and Dr. Anna Wawrinska). The appointed researcher will take part in annual meetings of the consortium and have a chance for internships in the partners’ laboratories and training in different aspects of plant nutrition research. He/she will also join the GSfBS graduate school.

Your profile

We are looking for a talented, highly motivated, and enthusiastic researcher interested in plant science. The successful candidate will have a Master degree or equivalent in life sciences. He/she will have experience in plant molecular biology and/or genetics and be able to freely communicate in English. Experience in working on plant nutrition or analysis of Arabidopsis mutants is desirable.

The University of Cologne is committed to equal opportunities and diversity. Women are specifically encouraged to apply and given priority in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also explicitly welcome applications from people with special needs or of equal status.

Please send your application with proof of the sought qualifications by email (in one pdf-file) with the reference number wiss1910-07 to Prof. Stanislav Kopriva (skopriva@uni-koeln.de). The application deadline is 15th November 2019. For more information on our lab and research visit our website <http://www.ag-kopriva.botanik.uni-koeln.de/>