

# PhD Position in Plant Microbe Interactions

Botanical Institute

Foto: Thomas Josek

With approximately 50,000 students, the University of Cologne is one of the largest universities in Germany and ranks among the Excellence Universities. It employs over 600 professors and 7,000 academic and non-academic staff.

The project is part of DFG Priority Programme SPP 2125 DECrypT, which aims to obtain a deep and more predictive understanding of plant-microbiota associations and to contribute to molecular understanding of plant microbiota functions. The goal of Stanislav Kopriva's research is to understand how plants integrate the uptake and utilization of key mineral nutrients with their needs, demand, and changes in environment and what is the role of microorganisms in plant nutrition.

## YOUR TASKS

The project aims to dissect the role of camalexin for plant-microbe interactions in the roots. This will be addressed by a combination of biochemical and genetic methods, focusing on two P-450 enzymes and a MYB transcription factor. The researcher will take part in annual meetings and workshops organized by the SPP to enable networking with the other programme members and training in different aspects of plant microbiota 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 microbe interactions or functional analysis of transcription factors is desirable.

## WE OFFER YOU

- » exciting research as a part of a large consortium and an opportunity to obtain PhD
- » a diverse and fair working environment
- » support in reconciling work and family life
- » flexible working time models
- » extensive advanced training opportunities
- » occupational health management offers
- » local transport ticket at a discount for UoC employees

The position is available from 1st January 2019 on a part time (65%) basis. It is limited to 3 years. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary is based on remuneration group 13 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity in its employment relations. Women are specifically encouraged to apply and given priority in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We explicitly welcome applications from individuals with severe disabilities or people of equivalent status. Severely disabled applicants of equal merit and qualifications will be given priority.

Please send your application with proof of the sought qualifications by email (in one pdf-file) with the reference number 1808-11 to Prof. Stanislav Kopriva (skopriva@uni-koeln.de). The application deadline is 20th September 2018.