
Founded in 1991, the University of Potsdam has developed from a small institution of higher education into one of the leading middle-sized universities in Germany. The University benefits from a close cooperation with the whole range of renowned non-university research institutes in the proximity. The group of Microbiology invites applications of talented candidates to apply for the following position

Doctoral Student (w/m/d) Plasticity in Carbon Fixation of Bloom-forming Cyanobacteria

for three years initially (starting date 01.03.2020). The project is part of the research focus program “Evolutionary Systems Biology” at the University of Potsdam.

Project background:

Microcystis is a harmful algal bloom cyanobacterium showing tremendous mass developments in freshwater lakes around the globe. Understanding the efficient biomass production of the cyanobacterium can provide insights into the impact of cyanobacterial blooms on global carbon budgets in times of climate change and provide lessons for sustainable green biotechnology. The project is centered on the activity and plasticity of the bifunctional enzyme RubisCO in *Microcystis* and the underlying mechanism. It will specifically focus on the widespread toxin microcystin that largely interferes with the carbon metabolism of cyanobacteria (Meissner *et al.*, Environ. Microbiol. 2015, Barchewitz *et al.*, Environ. Microbiol. 2019).

Requirements:

- a Master (or equivalent) in microbiology, biochemistry or molecular biology, preferably with experience and interest in one or more of the following: physiology of microorganisms, plant physiology, green biotechnology
- Candidates about to earn their Master degree are welcome to apply.
- desirable methodological skills: molecular biology techniques, metabolomics, proteomics, cellular biology, enzymology
- High motivation, creativity and a cooperative personality

What is offered:

- PhD position for three years according to German public service pay scale
- Mentoring for young researchers
- Working in a young team of motivated scientists
- Living in the exciting urban area of Berlin-Potsdam

How to apply:

Applications including cover letter (providing motivation and research interests), curriculum vitae, and the names of two referees should be sent by 15th January 2020 by email to editt@uni-potsdam.de.