The Institute of Quantitative Genetics and Genomics of Plants in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf invites applications for a

Research Associate (m/f/d) in Quantitative Genetics
(100 %, pay grade 13 TV-L)

at the earliest possible date at the Centre for Synthetic Life Sciences. The employment is initially limited for a period of two years with an option for prolongation for another four years. It is a qualification position in the sense of the Act of Academic Fixed-Term Contract (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz – Wiss-ZeitVG), which is to promote the scientific qualification of the employee.

The Institute of Quantitative Genetics and Genomics of Plants is member of the Cluster of Excellence on Plant Science (CEPLAS) and aims to identify the causes of natural phenotypic variation of crop plants on a molecular level, in order to attain an ultimate goal – the prediction of phenotypic performance under various environmental conditions. This requires combined efforts on creating novel plant material, exploiting the possibilities of *omics technologies, and developing innovative biostatistical and bioinformatical procedures.

Your tasks:
The selected candidate will plan, execute, and analyse experiments and projects that aim to unravel the genetics of natural variation of crop plants and/or improve their prediction. In addition, the selected candidate will contribute to the development of novel quantitative genetic approaches. Furthermore, the preparation of scientific publications from the above described research is required. The selected candidate is expected to supervise B.Sc., M.Sc., and PhD students. The contribution to teaching Biostatistics as well as Quantitative Genetics and Genomics in German and English language (teaching duty of 4 semester hours) as well as the contribution with her/his expertise to collaborative research projects of the Institute is a prerequisite. Contributions to the general organisational tasks of our Institute are also expected.

Our requirements:
• A completed scientific university education (M.Sc. / M.A. / Diploma / Magister) in the field of agricultural sciences, quantitative biology or related disciplines, with a PhD
• Expertise in quantitative genetic analyses
• Excellent skills in biostatistics
• Proficiency in R programming and working in a Unix environment
• Excellent communication skills in English (spoken and written)
• Documented, independent scientific work
• High motivation, team spirit, and scientific creativity
• Organizational talent and mentorship experience
• Any of the following additional qualifications are an advantage: expertise in bioinformatic and biostatistic analyses of next generation sequencing or other *omics data sets, expertise in molecular biology, teaching experience

We offer:
• An interdisciplinary working environment in an international team of plant breeders, statisticians, molecular geneticists and bioinformaticians
• Active exchange and collaboration with partners from academia and industry in a field of constant technical and methodological development
• Very good possibility to establish an own research profile

The pay scale grouping will be, depending on the personal qualification of the applicant, up to pay grade 13 TV-L.

In principle, the employment can also take place part-time, if no compelling official reasons are opposed in an individual case.

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf aims at increasing the percentage of employed women. Applications from women will therefore be given preference in cases of equal aptitude, ability and professional achievements unless there are exceptional reasons for choosing another applicant. Applications from suitably qualified severely disabled persons or disabled persons regarded as being of equal status according to Book IX of the German Social Code (SGB – Soziales Gesetzbuch) are encouraged.

Your contact person in case of questions is Prof. Dr. Benjamin Stich; email: benjamin.stich@hhu.de

Please submit your application documents (cover letter, curriculum vitae, two recommendation letters) citing reference no. 138.22 – 3.1 until 31.08.2022 preferably by email as one PDF document to: ines.sigge@hhu.de or in writing to:
Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
Institute of Quantitative Genetics and Genomics of Plants
Ines Sigge
Universitätstr. 1
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Please do not submit application materials in folders and be sure to send copies only, as documents will not be returned (they will be destroyed after the selection procedure has been completed).