



Foto: Fabian Stürzt

Doctoral Position – Systems–level consequences of fidelity changes in mRNA and protein biosynthesis (CRC 1678) (f/m/x)

Thorsten Hoppe Laboratory – CECAD Cluster of Excellence in Aging Research, University of Cologne

We are one of the largest and oldest universities in Europe and one of the most important employers in our region. Our broad range of subjects, the dynamic development of our main research areas and our central location in Cologne make us attractive for students and researchers from around the world. We offer a wide range of career opportunities in science, technology, and administration.

The Hoppe lab (www.hoppelab.uni-koeln.de) is looking for PhD Students. We study protein homeostasis networks that protect the proteome of multicellular organisms. The endoplasmic reticulum (ER) coordinates mRNA translation and processing of secreted and endomembrane proteins. While ER-associated RNA silencing (ERAS) reduces ER overload, ER-associated protein degradation (ERAD) prevents the accumulation of misfolded proteins in the ER lumen. The central goal of the proposed research is to understand the spatiotemporal coordination and physiological consequences of mRNA and protein turnover at the ER membrane.

YOUR TASKS

- » Design and lead research projects to elucidate mechanisms of mRNA and protein quality control in *C. elegans* and human cell culture models
- » Organize and troubleshoot your work independently
- » Communicate results and experiences with the team in a transparent and professional manner
- » Advise and mentor undergraduate and graduate students

YOUR PROFILE

- » Master's degree in biology, biochemistry or a related field and experience in organismal biology are required
- » Strong interest in protein quality control and aging research
- » Highly intrinsically motivated, creative, dedicated and critical thinker
- » Ability to clearly communicate research results to other lab members and scientists
- » Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- » Team player who can work independently in an international team
- » Proactive, flexible and problem-solving attitude

WE OFFER

- » A multifaceted academic position in a stimulating research environment
- » Opportunity to work at one of the most innovative universities and research centres for aging research

- » A research campus where quality, professionalism and team spirit are encouraged and where there are many opportunities for professional development
- » A diverse working environment with equal opportunities
- » Support in balancing work and family life
- » Flexible working time models
- » Extensive advanced training opportunities
- » Occupational health management offers

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity. Women will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from all suitable candidates regardless of their gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

The position is available from 01 October 2024 on a part-time basis (25,89 hours per week). The contract is for a fixed term of 4 years until 30 September 2028. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary will be based on remuneration group I3 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

Please send your application (without a photo) with CV, letter of intent, names and addresses of 3 references with the reference number Wiss2406-11 to Prof. Thorsten Hoppe, E-mail: thorsten.hoppe@uni-koeln.de.

The application deadline is 31 August 2024.

For further inquiries, please contact Professor Thorsten Hoppe (thorsten.hoppe@uni-koeln.de).