

Name: Simon Poepsel

**Institute, main affiliation:
Center for Molecular Medicine Cologne (CMMC)**

Research field:

Structural Biology (Cryo-electron microscopy)

Epigenetics, post-translational protein modifications (histone methylation / demethylation)

Biochemistry

Funding / grant(s):

- **Junior Research Group Leader Program of the CMMC**

Last two research positions:

(position, time period, lab or PI, research institute, Country)

1. Postdoc (2015-2019), Eva Nogales Lab, University of California at Berkeley / Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, California, USA (Feodor Lynen Fellow)
2. PhD Student (2009-2014) / Postdoc (2014-2015), Michael Ehrmann Lab, University of Duisburg-Essen, Center for Medical Biotechnology (ZMB), Essen, Germany

What do you think were the major milestones in your career that led to your position as group leader (e.g. could be motivations, publications, coincidences, "right" field of science, network)?

- motivation to work in science and never give up
- choice of relevant, high-impact topics and questions
- change of field / methodology from PhD to Postdoc
- transition into a 'hot' field such as cryo-EM
- excellent, international research environment for Postdoc

