

Hier  
entsteht  
Zukunft!



UNIVERSITÄT  
DES  
SAARLANDES

Foto: Oliver Dietze

Saarland University is a campus university with an international reputation for research excellence, particularly in computer science and in the life sciences and nanosciences. The university is also distinguished by its close ties to France and its strong European focus. Around 17,000 students, studying over one hundred different academic disciplines, are currently enrolled at Saarland University. Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Department of Medical Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (Chair: Prof. Martin van der Laan), Preclinical Center for Molecular Signaling (PZMS), Faculty of Medicine, Saarland University, Campus Homburg is inviting applications for the following position commencing at the earliest opportunity.

### Academic research assistant (m/f/x)

**Reference number W2556**, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale<sup>1</sup>, pay grade: E13 TV-L, duration of employment: 36 months, volume of employment: 65 % of standard working time.

#### Workplace/Department:

Campus Homburg, Department of Medical Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

#### Job requirements and responsibilities:

The team of Prof. Dr. Martin van der Laan studies diverse questions related to the biogenesis, ultrastructure and functional dynamics of mitochondria. Focus areas are the nano-architecture of the mitochondrial inner membrane and its regulation in time and space as well as the composition, function and adaptation of interorganellar membrane contact sites. Our group is most interested in such fundamental molecular mechanisms in the context of metabolic adaptations, (patho-)physiological stress responses and processes of differentiation. We employ a plethora of cutting-edge genetic, biochemical and cell biological methods to address these questions in detail. Through a substantial number of local, national and international collaborations, our team is integrated into a very active and lively scientific network that constitutes an ideal basis for the education and training of motivated and deeply committed students.

*We now aim to strengthen our team by the addition of a new enthusiastic Ph.D. student, who is eager to learn more about mitochondrial biology.* The successful candidate will work on a project in the framework of the DFG priority program 2453 (Schwerpunktprogramm, SPP) "Integration of mitochondria into the cellular proteostasis network", which is carried out in close cooperation with the group of Prof. Dr. Dominic Winter from the University of Bonn. In this timely and innovative project we will study the role of lysosomes in the management of mitochondrial stress

<sup>1</sup> TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German *Länder*

The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.

responses. The candidate will use different human cell models of homeostatic and proteotoxic stress in mitochondria and investigate in detail the interactions with lysosomes via generation and uptake of vesicular carriers or via membrane contact sites. The work will be of utmost importance for a better understanding of cellular protein homeostasis as a strict requirement for normal, healthy functionality of cells and organs. Our project P14 plays a central role in the SPP 2453 and is closely connected to the other projects through common scientific interests and technologies.

Tasks of the successful candidate:

- Experimentally address the scientific questions in the above mentioned research project using biochemical, genetic and cell biological methods
- Data analysis and interpretation together with your supervisor(s)
- Presentation of your research at internal meetings and scientific conferences
- Contributions to writing scientific papers

**Your academic qualifications:**

- Completed scientific university studies in Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biotechnology or any related subject area
- Language skills (according to GER): English – B2

**The successful candidate will also be expected to:**

- Profound knowledge and hands-on skills in the subject areas of biochemistry, molecular biology and cell biology (ideally including high-resolution light microscopy)
- Experience with mammalian cell cultures as experimental model systems (cultivation, genetic manipulation, cell fractionation)
- Strong teamwork ability, strong motivation and strong commitment
- Enjoyment of scientific laboratory work, communication abilities and engaged, independent function
- Profound German language skills are preferred

**What we can offer you:**

- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services ('Job-Ticket Plus' of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in a PDF file with complete CV and copies of all relevant certificates incl. grades, a short summary of your M.Sc. thesis project and further scientific experience, a letter of motivation and the addresses of two reference persons (if applicable list of publications and conference contributions)) by **05.12.2024** to [martin.van-der-laan@uks.eu](mailto:martin.van-der-laan@uks.eu). Please include the reference number **W2556** in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Prof. Martin van der Laan or Dr. Karina von der Malsburg  
Medizinische Biochemie & Molekularbiologie  
Tel.: 06841 16-26590 or 06841 16-26579

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at <https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung>.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. [Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung](#). By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.