The Synthetic RNA Biology Lab at the Department of Biology invites applications for

2 PhD Studentships – (m/f/d) 65%

for a funding period of three years initially.

Our research focuses on regulatory RNA structures. One key aspect is to understand how they affect posttranscriptional gene regulation, in particular the characterization of RNA-protein interactions.

Activities and responsibilities
The first project focuses on the investigation of the binding preference of Roquin proteins. Roquin proteins are characterized by a purely structure-based, as opposed to sequence-based, recognition of RNA. In the second project, novel, regulatory active mRNA structures will be identified and their cellular function and binding partners characterized.
Both projects include sequencing- and FACS-based high-throughput techniques as well as genome editing by CRISPR/Cas in cell culture. Active cooperation with bioinformatics and structural biology groups is expected.

Qualification profile
The prerequisite for employment is a completed degree (Master of Science or comparable) in life sciences or related natural sciences with excellent grades. You have practical experience in the field of biochemistry and/or molecular biology and have a keen interest in experimental research. We expect highly motivated students who enjoy working in a team. Excellent English language skills are essential. Opportunity to complete a PhD is given. The performance of general lab service also serves the scientific qualification of the applicant.
As an equal opportunity employer, the Technical University of Darmstadt seeks to increase the proportion of women in the workforce and therefore particularly encourages female applicants to apply. Applicants with a degree of disability of at least 50% or equivalent are preferred in case of equal qualification. Salary is based on the Collective Labour Agreement for the Technical University of Darmstadt (TV-TU Darmstadt).

We offer
Successful applicants will work in an exciting and interactive research environment as members of a dynamic team of international scientists and apply the latest technologies in biochemistry and molecular biology. The projects are embedded in the CRC 902 “Molecular Principles of RNA-based Regulation”. Association to the integrated graduate school of the CRC guarantees an excellent collaborative and interdisciplinary environment for research and a well-structured education in scientific and other key competences.

Send application to
Applications (in German or English) including the standard documents, the abstract of the Master’s thesis and the contact details of the supervisor of the Master’s thesis should be sent in electronic form (as a single pdf) giving the identification number 210 directly to Dr. Julia Weigand (julia.weigand@tu-darmstadt.de).
Deadline for applications: May 19th 2020