UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

Ph.D. Position in Plant Biology

The Plant Physiology group at the Institute of Biology, University of Leipzig, offers a Ph.D. position (*Promotionsstelle*) starting at the next possible date.

Activities and responsibilities

Microscopic algae (microalgae) are important primary producers in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. During the sexual reproduction of many microalgae, the formation of zygotes is coupled to the subsequent development of zygotes into resistant, dormant spores. These so-called zygospores possess an astounding ability to withstand various forms of abiotic stress such as freezing or desiccation. In this project, we want to study the zygote-to-zygospore transition at the molecular, genetic and physiological levels in the unicellular model alga *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*. The findings of this project will help to understand how a eukaryotic photosynthetic cell can adapt its metabolism and turn into a resistant, inactive spore to survive under deteriorating environmental conditions.

Qualification profile

We are seeking a talented, highly motivated candidate with a Master's degree in biochemistry, biology or a related area. Experience in the handling of microorganisms and methods from plant physiology, biochemistry, analytical chemistry and/or molecular biology are desirable. Very good English language skills are expected.

We offer

We offer an exciting and interdisciplinary working environment in a research group addressing fundamental questions in plant biology. Collaborations with other research groups will be an important part of the project. The position is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and will be financially supported for three years initially. For more information, please visit https://www.uni-leipzig.de/universitaet/arbeiten-an-der-universitaet-leipzig/stellenausschreibungen.

Send application to

Please send your application (cover letter, CV, all certificates and credentials, contact details of two academic references) to severin.sasso@uni-leipzig.de or Prof. Severin Sasso, Universität Leipzig, Institut für Biologie, Johannisallee 21-23, 04103 Leipzig. Electronic applications (as a single PDF file) are preferred. The application deadline is 8 September 2020.