Job posting

**Type of position**
- ☒ scientific graduates
- ☐ administrative post docs
- ☐ other

**Title**
PhD position: Hip Kinases as regulators of cell fatge decisions

**Institution**
Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Medical Faculty, Institute for Biochemistry, Schmitz Group

**Position**
PhD student (E13/50%) for initially 3 years

**Responsibilities**
In this project we will investigate the regulation of kinases belonging to the family of homeodomain-interacting protein kinases (HIPKs). These kinases are critical regulators of cell differentiation and survival, but in addition increasing evidence suggests that they function as regulators of the cell cycle and in the control of metabolic circuits. This work will focus on the kinases HIPK1 and HIPK2, which play distinct but also overlapping roles in cellular regulation. We engineered human cells which now allow to inactivate or activate the individual kinases using systems regulated by tetracycline or auxin. These tools now allow us to further investigate the HIPK-mediated regulation of downstream cell cycle regulatory kinases that we recently identified. We also found an important role of HIPKs in metabolic circuits, as the kinases control metabolic pathways and vice versa metabolites and components thereof associate with the kinases. The results from these experiments can increase our understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying proliferative diseases such as fibrosis or cancer.

Methods: We use state-of-the-art methodology to address these questions ranging from cell biological and biochemical methods to "-omics" methodologies.

The Institute (http://www.uni-giessen.de/cms/fbz/fb11/institute/biochemie/forschungbiochemie/ag-schmitz) offers the opportunity to work in an interactive and dynamic setting, is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and well funded. We provide a creative working atmosphere and have active
exchange programs with many scientists abroad.

**Requirements**
You have successfully finished your Master or equivalent degree. You are highly self-motivated and ambitious and can work well in a highly active international research team, but also work on your own. Participation in the running teaching program is expected.

**Application procedure (deadline etc.)**
The University is an equal opportunity employer, and applications from women or candidates with children are encouraged. Applications of severely disabled with same suitability are preferred. Application deadline is end of July 2020.

Please send your CV, two names of reference and the further usual documents to Prof. M. Lienhard Schmitz.

We would appreciate to receive the application papers in copy, since we are not going to send your papers back after termination of the application procedure.

**Contact**
Prof. Dr. Lienhard Schmitz: lienhard.schmitz@biochemie.med.uni-giessen.de