

Max-Planck-Institut für Dynamik und Selbstorganisation

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

The Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization at Göttingen, Germany, is an international research institute. It performs both experimental and theoretical fundamental scientific research and currently employs about 280 people.

For the independent Max Planck Research Group of Dr. Karen Alim we seek to fill a

PhD position (m/f) in Biological Physics.

We are looking for excellent, highly motivated early-career researchers to join our research team. We offer a highly international, interdisciplinary and collaborative environment in exceptional research setting.

Our interdisciplinary group combines experimental and theoretical methods to investigate how an organism grows to form a desired structure and pattern. Understanding the morphogenesis of an organism, the collective self-organization of cells that gives rise to a functional structure is at the heart of decoding life. We aim to identify the rules of development by studying the physical principles underlying the formation and adaptation of biological organisms. Currently we focus on the question of how fluid flows transport and store mechanical and chemical signals and thereby enable decision and development of a living system. Our experimental model system is the network-forming ‘smart’ slime mold *Physarum polycephalum*. The organism is renowned for its complex behavior despite its simple make-up rendering it an intriguing model system.

Profile

The PhD candidate should have a Master’s degree (or comparable) in biology, experimental physics, or in a related field. The ideal candidate should have a background in quantitative biology, or experimental soft matter. Fluency in English and programming experiences are highly favorable as is the desire to immerse in interdisciplinary research.

Our offer

The PhD position is limited to three years. The salary and working hours are in accordance with the funding guidelines of the Max Planck Society for junior scientists. The salary is 2/3 of E13 TVÖD-Bund. In close collaboration with the Georg August University, a structured PhD program is offered in the graduate program of the Physics Department, or in the graduate program on Physics of Biological and Complex Systems.

The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals. The Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in those areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.

Application

To apply please online https://s-lotus.gwdg.de/mpg/mpsf/perso/mpids_w013.nsf/application with the reference no. MPIDS-W013 and submit a cover letter, your CV, publication list as well as contact information of two references. Your cover letter should briefly describe your past and current research interests and why you are interested in joining our group. Applications received before February 28th 2018 will be given full consideration. Please contact Karen Alim (karen.alim@ds.mpg.de) for further questions.

MPI for Dynamics and Self-Organization

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