

Job advertisement

The Faculty of Biology, **Institute of Organismic and Molecular Evolution**, Department **Behavioural Ecology and Social Evolution** at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany is looking for a

Postdoctoral researcher / Junior Group Leader

(m/f/d)

Evolution, Epigenetics and Genomics and/or Behavioural Ecology of Social Insects

for up to 4 ½ years

Employment will be as a researcher (EG 13 TV-L, 100%) on a postdoctoral or junior group leader position, depending on the applicant's experience and interest.

We are looking for a collaborative **early career researcher** with a competitive publication record in the field of (molecular) evolution, genomics and/or behavioural ecology of social insects, preferably ants. Depending on prior experience, the position can be filled by a **postdoc** or a **junior research group leader** in order to establish a research team within the department. Applicants must hold a PhD and for group leader status, previous postdoctoral experience is expected. Knowledge of state-of-the-art molecular approaches including bioinformatics is important. The successful candidate should develop collaborative projects and participate in ongoing projects (e.g. on host-parasite coevolution, molecular regulation of division of labour and aging), including co-supervision of PhD students, and can pursue their own research projects. Fundraising and teaching experience are not required for the postdoctoral position, but are advantageous for the junior group leader, who should build an independent research group supported by extramural funding (e.g. DFG, ERC). The successful applicant is expected to make minor contributions to teaching in the new international Master's programme in Evolutionary Biology and the GenEvo Research Training Group (<https://www.blogs.uni-mainz.de/fb10-evolutionary-biology/research-groups/>)

The research of the department composed of several international teams and headed by **Prof. Dr. Susanne Foitzik**, focusses on the (co-)evolution, behavioural ecology and epigenetics of social insects (<https://www.blogs.uni-mainz.de/fb10-evolutionary-biology/research-groups/>) and is part of the Institute of Molecular and Organismic Evolution [iomE \(uni-mainz.de\)](http://iomE.uni-mainz.de). Scientific interactions with the other groups of the department and the graduate programme "Gene Regulation in Evolution" are expected. Our new JGU Biocentre I offers excellent research conditions with state-of-the-art laboratories for molecular genetics, chemistry, NGS sequencing and climate chambers for animal husbandry.

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz is interested in increasing the proportion of women in science. Applications from female scientists are highly encouraged. Equally, preference will be given to qualified applicants with disabilities. Mainz University (<https://homepage.uni-mainz.de/>) is home to many excellent scientific institutions, including the Institute of Molecular Biology (IMB, www.imb-mainz.de), and Mainz is a historic city on the Rhine with many students and a rich social and cultural life ([Landeshauptstadt Mainz: Portal page](#) | [Homepage](#)).

Interested candidates should send an application (as a pdf attachment including CV, publication list, statement on research interests, and contact information of two possible referees) to foitzik@uni-mainz.de

Prof. Dr. Susanne Foitzik

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Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

Biozentrum

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Closing date for this position is 2nd of January 2024, online interviews will be held in January 2024, possible starting dates in the first half of 2024