



LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

CHAIR OF EVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGY
LMU BIOCENTER
PROF. DR. Nicolas GOMPEL



Research Associate Position

Akademischer Rat auf Zeit (A13)

A research associate position is available starting 1.12.2020 in the Department of Evolutionary Ecology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) with a payment scale comparable to a Senior Lecturer/Reader salary in the UK.

The position. We seek a highly motivated, experienced researcher with advanced skills in image analysis, data analysis, programming, statistics and bioinformatics. The successful candidate will use mathematical approaches to dissect the relationship between phenotype and genotype, starting from experimental data produced by our research group.

Candidates with past and documented experience at the interface of computer sciences and biology will be preferred, particularly experience in evolutionary developmental biology, comparative genomics, transcriptional regulation, or a combination of these fields. The candidates can refer to a recent preprint from our group (www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.06.24.169748v1) for an example of the type of projects they would pursue.

For candidates actively seeking funding (e.g., Emmy Noether, ERC starting), this position provides a great opportunity to develop an independent research agenda and to start a research group. Scientific co-operations within and outside the chair are explicitly encouraged (<http://www.en.biologie.uni-muenchen.de/forschung/topics/index.html>). The position comes with 5 hours of teaching duties during the semester (approx. 145 hours per annum) including lecturing, course administration and student supervision. With multiple local master and graduate programs, you will meet a group of international and highly motivated students, open to interdisciplinarity.

The environment. The successful candidate will be based in the Department of Evolutionary Ecology (www.evolutionary-ecology.bio.lmu.de), and affiliated to the chair of Prof. Nicolas Gompel, who studies the genetic origin of evolutionary changes (www.gompel.org). A main focus of the group is to characterize the molecular changes resulting in new gene regulation and phenotypic evolution. We combine enhancer dissection with reporter constructs in transgenic *Drosophila* with quantitative imaging and statistical modelling to understand the molecular bases of regulatory changes. We examine these changes at the level of closely related *Drosophila* species as well as populations, and adapt classical *Drosophila melanogaster* genetics to these different species to test evolutionary hypotheses.

Munich University (LMU) and Munich Technical University (TUM) are both recognized among Europe's premier academic and research institutions being consistently ranked among the top Universities worldwide. In particular the life science branch with its modern campus offers excellent technical facilities and many interaction possibilities including the LMU Gene Center, the LMU Biomedical Center, two Max-Planck-Institutes and the Helmholtz Centre (www.campusmartinsried.de/en/336-2/). The Campus Martinsried, where the LMU Biocenter is located, offers state-of-the-art computing facilities for genome-scale analyses, high-end imaging facilities, and an exciting multidisciplinary environment. Munich is Bavaria's capital, a vibrant, yet relaxed city with many traditions still alive and a high quality of living.

In contrast to the current funding climate in many other European and non-European countries, funding rates are relatively high in Germany, and there are several sources to apply from, see for instance <http://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding.html> or https://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/index.html. In addition, transnational European funding schemes offer attractive opportunities (<https://erc.europa.eu>).

How to apply. Applicants must hold a PhD and have a proven publication record. Applications including a statement of motivation describing relevant expertise and scientific objectives, a CV and the contact details of at least two references should be sent as a single .pdf file to gompel@bio.lmu.de, subject term 'research associate'.