

Group Leader – Cell Biology and Biophysics (2 positions)

Location:	Heidelberg, Germany
Staff Category:	Faculty Staff
Contract Duration:	5 years
Grading:	9
Closing Date:	12 September 2021
Reference Number:	HD02011

The **Cell Biology and Biophysics (CBB) Unit** is a vibrant interdisciplinary department where biologists, physicists, mathematicians and chemists work closely together. The Unit's highly collaborative research groups employ approaches ranging from advanced electron and light microscopy, chemical biology and biochemistry, genetics and functional genomics to bioimage informatics, modelling and computer simulations. The research in the Unit focuses on comprehensive understanding of the molecular mechanism of essential cellular functions, currently including transport, signalling, migration, differentiation and division.

We are seeking to recruit highly motivated group leaders who wish to carry out cutting-edge molecular cell biology research or imaging technology development. In the area of cell biology, we would for example welcome applications that plan to work in unusual, including marine, model systems, or that take a theoretical approach to model dynamic cell biological processes. In the area of imaging technology, we would for example welcome applications that develop novel microscopy technologies to probe the molecular or physical structure and function of cells.

Your role

You will lead a research group to pursue highly ambitious and original research goals. The future group leader will be embedded in the multidisciplinary and collaborative environment of EMBL, which provides many opportunities for interaction with other research groups.

You have

You should have a concise research plan with clearly outlined highly original and ambitious research goals. A PhD degree in natural sciences is required, with an interest in the wider field of Cell Biology and Biophysics. Applicants with a degree in (bio)informatics/mathematics, engineering, chemistry, physics and a keen interest in cell biological applications of their discipline are especially encouraged to apply.

In addition, you should be dedicated to develop friendly and collaborative working atmosphere and to provide support and guidance to team members. High moral standards and embracing diversity and inclusion is desirable, as is pro-active and positive problem-solving mind-set.

EMBL's future scientific directions

EMBL's future scientific directions, Molecules to Ecosystems, include a vision to advance our understanding of ecosystems at the molecular level, applying expertise in molecular biology to study life in its natural context. New research areas will focus on applying experimental, computational and theoretical approaches to study at multiple levels (molecules, cells, tissues and populations) how organisms interact with each other and respond to environmental change.

The Cell Biology and Biophysics Unit is interested in hosting cell biology and/or imaging technology activities that relate to the new [transversal themes](#).

- [Planetary Biology](#) – aiming to understand how microbes, plants, and animals interact with each other and with their abiotic environments at the molecular level.
- [Microbial Ecosystems](#) – studying microorganisms, how they live in communities and interact with their environments, including host organisms.
- [Infection Biology](#) - unravelling new strategies to treat infections by studying pathogens, their molecular machineries, their interface with the host, and their ability to spread in populations and across hosts.
- [Human Ecosystems](#) – applying computational and experimental approaches to reveal the impact of the environment on human health and physiology, both at the individual and the population level.
- [Theory](#) – using modelling, mathematical reasoning, and conceptual approaches to study complex and dynamic biological systems.

Why join us

EMBL appoints group leaders from early on in their career and provides a very supportive environment for your first independent position in order to achieve your research goals. The initial "Lead your Lab" management training is provided for all incoming group leaders.

EMBL offers a highly collaborative, uniquely international culture. The various EMBL units are strongly connected and cross-unit collaborations are not only possible but also strongly encouraged. It fosters top quality, interdisciplinary research by promoting a vibrant environment consisting of young independent research groups with access to outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and core facilities.

EMBL is an inclusive, equal opportunity employer offering attractive conditions and benefits appropriate to an international research organization with a very collegial and family friendly working environment. The remuneration package comprises a competitive salary, a comprehensive pension scheme, medical, educational and other social benefits, as well as financial support for relocation and installation, including your family and the availability of an excellent child care facility on campus. EMBL is committed to internationality, diversity and equality, and as such encourages applications from underrepresented groups.

What else you need to know

We are Europe's flagship research laboratory for the life sciences – an intergovernmental organisation performing scientific research in disciplines including molecular biology, physics, chemistry and computer science. We are an international, innovative and interdisciplinary laboratory with more than 1800 employees from more than 80 countries, operating across six sites, in Heidelberg (HQ), Barcelona, Hinxton near Cambridge, Hamburg, Grenoble and Rome. The working language of the institute is English.

In your online application, you will be asked to include a cover letter, your CV, the names and contact details of 3 referees and a concise description of research interests & future research plans, typically not exceeding five pages. Should you plan to submit your application close to the deadline, please inform your referees in advance so they can be ready to send their LOR preferably by the deadline of the call.

If it is relevant for your research plans, you have the possibility to indicate their potential links to EMBL's [transversal themes](#) or other research Units recruiting in this call:

- [Group Leader - Structural Systems Biology](#)
- [Group Leader - Developmental Biology](#)

Interviews are planned for **10 – 12, and 15 (morning) November 2021**. Same interview conditions will be applied to all candidates, despite of the potential travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 situation.

Information on Group Leader appointments can be found here http://www.embl.org/gl_faq.

An initial contract of 5 years will be offered to the successful candidate. This is foreseen to be extended to a maximum of 9 years, subject to an external review.

Further information about the position can be obtained from [Stephanie Alexander](#), Research Manager in the Cell Biology and Biophysics Unit.

Please apply online through: www.embl.org/jobs