

PhD position (4 years): Trans-generational immune mechanisms in honeybees

Location of Karl-Franzen University of Graz (Austria), Department of Biology is looking for a PhD Student to start from 01.03.2025.

Research direction: In this role, you will employ a variety of methods to explore social insect immunity, including bioassays with bees, infection experiments with insect pathogens, enzymatic assays, gene expression analysis, and histology. These techniques will be used to investigate trans-generational adaptations of immunity between bees and their pathogens, aiming to deepen our understanding of the fundamental mechanisms of bee immunity. The insights gained from this research will be instrumental in developing strategies to help bees better cope with diseases or even prevent them altogether. Moreover, the application of your research findings will play a crucial role in advancing medical solutions for honeybees, contributing to their long-term health and sustainability.

Your work will involve both independent and collaborative research, with a primary focus on the immunity of social insects. In addition to your research responsibilities, you will also be engaged in teaching courses, supervising students, and managing various organizational and administrative tasks. There is also an exciting opportunity to work on a relevant dissertation, allowing you to further your academic and professional development while making a significant impact in the field of social insect immunity.

We are looking for: The ideal candidate for this position will have completed a master's degree in evolutionary biology, biology, or a related field, with a strong preference for those with a background in evolutionary biology. A deep interest in the biology of social insects and immunobiology is essential, as the role involves specialized research in these areas. Experience working with honey bees is highly desirable.

The candidate should demonstrate a high level of commitment and motivation for scientific work, with the ability to conduct independent research. Knowledge of statistics is also desirable, given the need to analyze and interpret research data effectively. Proficiency in English is required, as is the ability to work well within an international team, necessitating both personal and social skills. Strong team collaboration and organizational abilities are crucial, and experience in teaching or a demonstrated aptitude for independent instruction is an added advantage.

We offer: Salary scheme of the University Collective Agreement: B1, with 30H per week appointment. The minimum salary as stated in the collective agreement and according to the classification scheme is EUR 50103,20 gross/year. This minimum salary may be higher due to previous employment periods eligible for inclusion and other earnings and remunerations.

We offer you a job with a lot of responsibility and variety. You can expect an enjoyable work climate, flexible work hours and numerous possibilities for further education and personal development. Take advantage of the chance to enter into a challenging work environment full of team spirit and enthusiasm for your job.

For information, you can contact Dr. Katharina Preßler via email at katharina.pressler@uni-graz.at or by phone at +43 (0) 316 / 380 – 5661. For information regarding research and projects please contact Prof. Dalial Freitag dalial.freitag@uni-graz.at. The University of Graz strives to increase the proportion of women in particular in management and faculty positions and therefore encourages qualified women to apply. Especially with regard to academic staff, we welcome applications from persons with disabilities who meet the requirements of the advertised position. If you are interested, please submit your application documents (CV, certificates, motivation letter) before the stated deadline. **Please note that in order to comply with the applicable data protection regulations, we can only accept applications via our web-based applicant tool for this vacant position.** Make sure to send your application via: <https://jobs.uni-graz.at/en/jobs/570a139a-ab20-c91a-63f0-66aca396ed98/apply>

Application Deadline: 25.09.2024