Universität Bremen

Young Universities for the Future of Europe

Hosting offer for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 at University of Bremen/Research group Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are individual research grants offering excellent postdoctoral researchers the chance to develop their skills by means of international mobility. Through the implementation of an original and personalised research project, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships aim to foster excellence through training and mobility and to equip researchers with new skills and competences in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges.

Research group of Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein at the University of Bremen invites motivated postdoctoral researchers to jointly prepare an application for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships call (MSCA-PF-2022) with them as host organisation.

Description of Hosting organisation/group

The research of the Kirstein lab aims to understand the molecular mechanisms of protein homeostasis in response to stress and with the progression of aging. In particular the mechanism of individual chaperones and chaperone complexes in the context of an intact protein homeostasis network that includes proteolytic machines such as autophagy and the ubiquitin proteasome system. How the different nodes of the proteostasis network are regulated and coordinated with the progression of aging and in protein misfolding diseases such as neurodegenerative diseases. The Kirstein lab uses an interdisciplinary approach by employing molecular biology and biochemical methods as well as genetic methods to gain insight into the chaperone-mediated protein folding events not only in vitro, but also in vivo in a living animal and in cultured cells. Our lab studies protein homeostasis in various cellular systems ranging from human cell culture including Huntington's disease – patient derived iPS and neuronal cells to the nematode C. elegans. The in vivo studies are complemented by mechanistic in vitro studies and we apply spectroscopy, microscopy (confocal, FLIM) and genetic tools such as CRISPR/Cas and photo--convertible sensors to study protein homeostasis in the context of aging and neurodegenerative diseases.

https://www.uni-bremen.de/zellbiologie/

Topics/expertise

We are looking for an enthusiastic Postdoc with either a background in biochemistry (protein purification and characterization), cell biology (mammalian cell culture and imaging techniques) or genetics (CRISPR-Cas, optogenetics) to join our interdisciplinary and international research group. You can establish your own line of research and will be supported and mentored by the PI, Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein.

Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein pioneered several biochemical and imaging techniques to study amyloid proteins and the proteostasis network in vitro and in the aging model system C. elegans. She demonstrated leadership qualities by successfully coordinating an international HFSP-funded consortium (2011-2013), co-organized 2 international meetings: European C. elegans meetings 2014 +

2016 in Berlin with more than 300 participants each. Since 2019 she is the coordinator of the international MSc Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. In 2021, Janine Kirstein was elected as Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Chemistry of Universität Bremen.

Your profile

- You must have a completed PhD in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biosciences or a related discipline at the time of the call deadline (14 September 2022).
- Candidates must have a maximum of 8 years full-time research experience from the PhD award date until September 14, 2022. Periods of inactivity in research (e.g. unemployment, periods of employment outside research, parental or sick leave) do not count towards the time of research experience.
- For European fellowships, candidates can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Germany for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before September 14, 2022.
- Highly motivated candidate with an excellent research track record appropriate to career stage, as evidenced by academic publications and other scientific output.

What we offer

- Support and guidance for the preparation of your MSCA PF proposal, backed by the expertise of the Funding Advisory Service at the University of Bremen
- A stimulating, interdisciplinary and inclusive environment for high-level research.
- Support for establishing your academic career that includes opportunities for networking and cooperation with international research labs

How to apply?

Indicate your interest by contacting the host institution as follows:

Please contact Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein by email with a short CV and motivation to indicate your interest to prepare a MSCA-PF application with her lab: kirstein@uni-bremen.de

After the supervisor agrees to support you as a MSCA-PF candidate, you can start preparation of MSCA PF project proposal and will be supported further by the Funding Advisory Service of the host university.

For more information please contact the MSCA coordinator of the host institution: eu@vw.uni-bremen.de