



At LMU Munich, Faculty of Biology, for the Chair of Quantitative Organismal Networks, we are looking for a

## Research Associate Position (Akademische Ratsstelle auf Zeit)

In this position, you will uncover how symbiotic associations enable organisms to adopt new ecological roles. Using the anemone model *Aiptasia*, we dissect the mechanisms, ecology and evolution underlying coral-algal endosymbiosis to learn how molecular interactions between distinct species lead to stable and complex ecosystems, which have co-evolved over millions of years. For more information on our research, visit: [www.guselab.de](http://www.guselab.de).

This fixed-term position is available initially for 3 years and is normally extended for another 3-years, after which a final extension of another 6 years is possible for candidates interested in doing a Habilitation (the highest educational degree in Germany). The position is available for early-career scientists holding a PhD-degree. Competitive candidates have a few years of postdoctoral experience.

**Research:** The Research Associate will closely collaborate on research programs developed by the Chair in Quantitative Organismic Networks (Prof. Guse), and/or develop a fully independent research program. Research projects will focus on the cell biology of the cnidarian-dinoflagellate symbiosis using *Aiptasia* anemones as an experimental model and comparative approaches based on related system. Successful candidates may do the former in the first three years, and the latter in the second three years. The Research Associate will finance the research through third-party funding acquired in open competition from e.g., the German Science Foundation (DFG), and produce high-quality research and papers.

**Teaching:** The position comes with the requirement to teach 5 SWS (Semester Wochenstunden) in both the summer (April-July) and the winter (Oct-Feb) semester. The Research Associate will co-teach basic courses in biology in the BSc-Biology and the MSc-program Evolution, Ecology and Systematics (EES-LMU), and supervise students during Individual Research Training (IRT), BSc- and MSc-thesis projects. Competitive candidates are able to give stimulating, engaging, and interactive presentations; prior teaching experience is not strictly required.

**Requirements:** The successful candidate should have a firm background in experimental cell biology and advanced, quantitative (live) microscopy techniques. Ideal candidates have experience in genetic manipulation to fluorescently label cellular structures, independently develop novel imaging approaches and advanced image analysis skills (ImageJ/Python). Previous experience in molecular work on cnidarians or non-standard experimental systems and/or symbiosis are an advantage. Our working language is English. We expect good communication skills, the ability to work independently as well enjoying contributing to a diverse research team. Specifically, the candidate is expected to take responsibility for optimizing and supervising the labs' microscopy protocols and imaging analysis workflows.

**What we offer:** This position offers the opportunity to work in a diverse, international and motivated team, dedicated to advancing our understanding of coral symbiosis. Our research is highly topical and we seek to actively contribute to a sustainable world. Accordingly, we offer to complement your basic research activities with opportunities for further training and with participation in transfer and outreach activities including *ivamos*, *symbiosisi* (<https://vamossymbiosis.org/>). The laboratory is well-funded and researchers are supported by an excellent laboratory infrastructure at the HighTechCampus Planegg-Martinsried, which is part of the largest German university. We value good communication, a pleasant working atmosphere and personal responsibility. We are also dedicated to contribute

to open and reproducible science. If applicable, you will participate in coral reef field work in Okinawa (Japan) and interact with international collaboration partners.

**Project duration and starting date:** Successful candidates will be offered an E/A13 position for the duration of three years, which is normally extended by another three years. The earliest starting date is 01.04.2023. LMU has signed the "Diversity Charter" and is committed to the diversity of its employees. We therefore actively promote gender equality. Severely disabled applicants will be given preference if their qualifications are otherwise essentially the same.

**Application package.** Candidates should send a motivation letter and CV (one PDF, max. 5 MB) to: Prof. Annika Guse over email ([annika.guse@bio.lmu.de](mailto:annika.guse@bio.lmu.de)). Submission deadline is the 01.02.2023.

In the course of your application for an open position at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) München, you will be required to submit personal information. Please be sure to refer to our [LMU Privacy Policy](#). By submitting your application, you confirm that you have read and understood our data protection guidelines and privacy policy and that you agree to your data being processed in accordance with the selection process.