Job vacancy No. 004-2021

The IPF-Institute of Biofunctional Polymer Materials is looking for a highly motivated PhD student (m/f/d), 26 h/week.

with interest in application-oriented research, new medical therapies and development of innovative material types. The position is part of an interdisciplinary research project in collaboration with the University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus Dresden “Optimizing porcine islet macroencapsulation for the treatment of patients with insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus” within the Transregio Collaborative Research Center 127: “Biology of xenogeneic cell, tissue and organ transplantation – from bench to bedside” funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). More information can be found here: http://www.klinikum.uni-muenchen.de/SFB-TRR-127/de/.

The project aims to establish porcine pancreatic islet macroencapsulation as a concept for clinical islet xenotransplantation to eventually overcome major limitations in classic organ/cell transplantation such as organ scarcity and need for systemic immunosuppression. The student will synthesize and process customized hydrogel- and other polymer materials for the different modules of a macroencapsulation device and characterize the materials, test the quality of the embedded islets and the performance of the device utilizing a broad spectrum of analytical methods. She/he will be involved in validating the optimized device in preclinical tests for biocompatibility, safety and efficacy required for clinical translation.

We expect the student to develop a deep understanding of her/his research field, write academic publications, and participate at project meetings and international conferences.

The position is starting April 01, 2021 and is limited for 3 years.

The Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden (IPF) is one of the largest polymer research facilities in Germany. As an institute of the Leibniz Association, the IPF is committed to carrying out application-oriented fundamental research and receives its basic funding in equal parts from the federal and state governments.

Requirements:

- master’s or diploma degree in the field of bioengineering, biotechnology, chemistry, material science or a closely related discipline
- reliability, diligence, independent way of working and motivation to learn new techniques
- good knowledge of written and spoken English
- team working skills

Ideal skills:

- polymer (especially hydrogel) chemistry and characterization
- casting, microstructuring and 3D printing techniques
- microscopic techniques (e.g. SEM, CLSM) and ELISA
- prior experience with cell culture/in vitro assays and/or statistical methods/design of experiments or knowledge about diabetes mellitus, islet cell biology, cell transplantation and/or oxygen generating materials is a plus.

Salary: According to German pay grade TV-L EG 13

The personal data collected by the IPF relating to your application, as well as the evaluation thereof shall be processed exclusively for purposes of the application process on the basis of contractual measures under Art. 6 (1b) GDPR. These data shall not be transferred to third parties. Recipients shall comprise the employees responsible, the Works Council as well as, where applicable, the representative body for disabled employees and the equal opportunities officers of the IPF. Your application details provided to us shall be deleted by us 6 months after the end of the application process, i.e. either after the job advertised has been filled, or after we have decided not to fill the vacancy after all. For questions under data protection law and for exercising your rights, please contact: datenschutz@ipfdd.de (data protection officer). You have the right to complain to the supervisory authority. Expenses for the interview participation will not be refunded.

Application:
If you are interested, please send your CV together with a short description about your background and scientific interests to the IPF Human Resources Department, Susanne Otto: otto-susanne@ipfdd.de.

For further information please contact Dr. Petra Welzel: welzel@ipfdd.de.

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