Job vacancy No. 074-2020

Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden (IPF)
Research Group ThieleLab

Synthetic polymers are key components in tailor-made, functional materials for a vast range of applications, e.g., construction, electronics, textiles, nutrition, cosmetics, and medicine. Yet, exploring their full potential is often limited by a notable lack of strategies for efficient and targeted design of well-established, yet hard-to-functionalize, low-reactive polymers. On this account, in a joined approach, we will design synthetic polymers (IPF) and introduce functional groups in the polymer backbone via cell-free bio-catalysis based on pre-screened, tailored enzymes (TU Dresden). The combination of abiological synthesis and biological functionalization of polymers will foster interdisciplinary exchange between life sciences and material sciences, and turn towards a new direction in polymer research. For that, we offer a

PhD position (m/f/d) on
Tailor-made synthetic polymers and hydrogel precursors

The position is part of a newly launched interdisciplinary research project funded by the Volkswagen Foundation ("Change of Course – Exploring New Research Territories between the Life Sciences and Science or Engineering"). An academic background in chemistry (hands-on training in polymer design and functionalization) is essential as much as a strong experience in and interest for:

- Advanced polymer synthesis (e.g., living anionic polymerization)
- Polymer characterization (NMR, GPC, HPLC, MALDI-TOF)

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. Costs for the Interviews are not covered.

For more information: thielelab.com

Starting date: ASAP
Salary: According to German pay grade TV-L EG 13
Duration: 3 years

The desire to work across disciplines and discuss/present results with our collaborator from TU Dresden (Molecular Biotechnology) being part of a joint PhD program is essential. If you are motivated by these challenges, please submit your excellent record of accomplishment with research interests, full CV, a detailed description of experience in experimental and characterization methods, and contact information of two references to the Personnel Department. Applications in non-related fields (e.g., inorganic chemistry, electrochemistry, environmental and hydrochemistry) will not be considered.

Detailed information: thiele@ipfdd.de or thielelab.com

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