A PhD position is available in the Neurodevelopmental Genetics Group, Institute of Reconstructive Neurobiology, University of Bonn Medical School, Germany.

Our lab studies the developmental processes that establish diversity in the dopaminergic system [1]. Dopaminergic neurons are essential for controlling important brain functions including reward behavior, voluntary movement and cognitive processes. Degeneration or dysfunction of the dopaminergic system is implicated in several devastating human neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric disorders, such as Parkinson’s disease, depression, drug abuse disorders and schizophrenia. Dopaminergic neurons are diverse in their connections, morphologies, molecular profiles, electrophysiological properties and in vivo activity. Our goal is to dissect the mechanisms that direct the specification of distinct dopaminergic subtypes and to understand how dopaminergic inputs influence the maturation of microcircuits in their target regions. To this end, we combine developmental genetic approaches with genetic tracing tools, electrophysiology and optogenetic methods [2].


The ideal candidate will be a highly motivated, team-oriented graduate with a strong interest in circuit development. Experience with animal experimentation and electrophysiology is advantageous. Candidates should hold a master’s degree in neurobiology, cell biology, or a related subject.

The PhD position will be integrated into the BIGS Neuroscience PhD Program of the University of Bonn Medical School. We offer supportive mentoring and a well-equipped laboratory.

Salary will be according to the German salary scale TV-L E13 (65% FTE).

The University of Bonn is an equal opportunities employer.

Questions concerning the project can be addressed to Sandra Blaess.

Applications by email only can be sent to sblaess@uni-bonn.de. Please refer to the application number 220_2017.

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