The Institute of Human Genetics, Department of Genomics, School of Medicine, University of Bonn, Germany, invites applications for a PhD position (TV-L E13, 65%) (m/f/d) starting August 2019.

The PhD position will be based in the multidisciplinary, multicenter research group FOR2107 “Neurobiology of affective disorders: A translational perspective on brain structure and function”, which is financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The group aims to determine the impact of genetic and environmental risk factors on the development of the major affective disorders (bipolar disorder, major depression) and to identify the neurobiological determinants of disease-course.

The Institute of Human Genetics is one of Germany’s leading centers in the identification of genetic risk factors for multifactorial disorders. It provides a unique scientific environment for researchers, combining expertise in the analyses and interpretation of genomic data and providing access to state-of-the-art high-throughput genomic technologies (microarrays, next- and third-generation-sequencing, bioinformatics).

The focus of the proposed PhD will be on the identification and characterization of the (epi-)genetic factors that contribute to the development and course of affective disorders. In addition to the generation of primary data, the proposed work will involve the performance of advanced bioinformatic- and biostatistical analyses. The successful candidate will apply state-of-the art genotyping and methylation profiling technologies; manage and analyze the generated data (bioinformatics workflow including quality control, data mining, polygenic and pathway analyses); and follow-up relevant findings.

We are seeking a highly motivated, team-oriented graduate candidate with an interest in the integrative analysis of molecular biological findings using advanced computational methods. Preferably, the successful candidate will hold a diploma or a master’s degree in Bioinformatics, Molecular Biology, or a related subject. Proficiency in German and English, as well as skills in molecular genetic techniques (DNA/RNA work, DNA genotyping, NGS, PCR) are required. Extensive experience in the use of computer and computational tools (MS Office, MS Windows, Linux, R, Python, Perl), and applied data analysis and database usage would be beneficial.

The PhD position will be integrated into the PhD Program of the School of Medicine at the University of Bonn and the Graduate School of Clinical and Population Sciences. Successful candidates are awarded a PhD.

The position is initially limited to three years with the possibility of extension.

We offer:

- The salary will be according to the German salary scale (EG 13, 65%)
- A “Jobticket” (subsidized public transport) is available
- There is a possibility to use the day care center
- Supplementary benefits in the public sector (pension according to VBL)

The University of Bonn is committed to diversity and equal opportunity. It is certified as a family-friendly university. It aims to increase the proportion of women in areas where women are under-represented and to promote their careers in particular. It therefore urges women with relevant qualifications to apply. Applications will be handled in accordance with the Landesgleichstellungsgesetz (State Equality Act). Applications from suitable individuals with a certified serious disability and those of equal status are particularly welcome.

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For further information, please email Prof. Markus Nöthen (PhD_FOR2107@uni-bonn.de).

Applicants should send their application in a single PDF-file including cover letter, detailed CV, scanned academic degrees and the contact details of two referees by email only to PhD_FOR2107@uni-bonn.de within two weeks after publication, mentioning Reference number 322_2019.

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