GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel is a foundation of public law jointly financed by the Federal Republic of Germany (90 %) and the state of Schleswig-Holstein (10 %) and is one of the internationally leading institutions in the field of marine sciences. Currently GEOMAR disposes over an annual budget of approx. 80 million Euro and has approx. 1000 employees.

The University of Kiel (CAU) and the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel (GEOMAR) are jointly offering a postdoctoral scientist position for 3 years in

**Comparative Genomics of Marine Invertebrates**

**Project Description and tasks**

The position is central to the recently funded collaborative DFG project IMMUBASE that brings together microbiology, genomics, evolutionary biology and immunology (PIs: Dr. Lucia Pita Galan, Prof. Ruth Schmitz-Streit, Prof. Thorsten Reusch). IMMUBASE aims to comparatively characterize the immune systems of basal metazoans to better understand host-microbe interactions. To achieve this goal, the project will obtain chromosomal level de novo genomes of a number of emerging model species (Cnidarians, Ctenophores, Sponges) in collaboration with the newly founded Competence Centre for Genomic Analysis CCGE Kiel. To better understand basal immunity, IMMUBASE will also employ challenge experiments with subsequent RNA-seq analyses as well as population genomic data to identify balancing selection and hence putative immune relevant genes.

**Essential components of the work are:**

- Molecular work (e.g. DNA/RNA-extractions) and analysis of genomic and transcriptomic data
- Assembly and annotation of de novo genomes of selected sponges, cnidarians and ctenophores
- Comparative genomic analysis, including RNAseq analyses, full genome re-sequencing and tests of molecular evolution / selection and interpretation of the data.
- Publication of results in conferences and scientific journals.

**Qualification**

We are looking for candidates who hold a doctorate either in

- bioinformatics with interest in basal metazoan physiology and immunology,
- or in biology with interest in invertebrate biology, evolutionary biology, or in immunology, and bioinformatics

We expect that the successful candidate has at least basic fluency in bioinformatics scripting languages and some experience with large genomic data sets. Desirable are a strong interest in invertebrate biology and immunology, and experience in molecular genetic techniques including high quality DNA extraction. It would be also advantageous if the candidate had experience in the annotation and assembly of genomes. The project is embedded into the Kiel Collaborative Research Centre "Origin and Function of Metaorganisms".

The salary depends on qualification and could be up to the class 13 TVöD-Bund of the German tariff for public employees. This is a full-time position, shared between GEOMAR
GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel and the University seeks to increase the proportion of female scientists and explicitly encourages qualified female academics to apply.

GEOMAR and the university are an equal opportunity employer and encourages scientists with disabilities to apply. Qualified disabled applicants will receive preference in the application process.

Please send your application for this post via email and in English (with letter of motivation, CV, certificates) in a single pdf-file mentioning the keyword “IMMUBASE” in the subject line. Please send your application not later than 09. March 2020 to the following email address:

bewerbung@geomar.de

We kindly ask you to refrain from submitting application photos. As soon as the selection procedure has finished, all your application data will be removed according to data protection regulation.

For further information regarding the position please contact Prof. Thorsten Reusch (coordinator) treusch@geomar.de, Tel: +49 431 600-4550.

Please do not contact us by phone about the present state of procedures. However, we will answer all your questions if you send us an e-mail to bewerbung@geomar.de. In doing so, please refer to the keyword.

GEOMAR is a member of the Helmholtz Association and the German Marine Research Consortium (KDM). For further information please visit www.geomar.de or www.helmholtz.de.

GEOMAR is committed to a non-discriminatory personnel selection. Our job advertisements address all people.

The TOTAL E-QUALITY award is presented to GEOMAR for efforts in terms of human resource management aimed at providing equal opportunity.