

Technology Platform Leader for Electron Microscopy (m/f/d)

The Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in the Helmholtz Association (MDC) is one of the world's leading biomedical research institutions. Max Delbrück, a Berlin native, was a Nobel laureate and one of the founders of molecular biology. At the MDC's locations in Berlin-Buch and Mitte, researchers from some 60 countries analyze the human system – investigating the biological foundations of life from its most elementary building blocks to systems-wide mechanisms. By understanding what regulates or disrupts the dynamic equilibrium in a cell, an organ, or the entire body, we can prevent diseases, diagnose them earlier, and stop their progression with tailored therapies. Patients should benefit as soon as possible from basic research discoveries. The MDC therefore supports spin-off creation and participates in collaborative networks. It works in close partnership with Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin in the jointly run Experimental and Clinical Research Center (ECRC), the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) at Charité, and the German Center for Cardiovascular Research (DZHK). Founded in 1992, the MDC today employs 1,600 people and is funded 90 percent by the German federal government and 10 percent by the State of Berlin.

The Scientific Infrastructures support and enable a wide portfolio of technologies and methodologies by specialized Scientific Technology Platforms, which are essential for the research approaches at the MDC. MDC researchers as well as Technology Platforms collaborate with Berlin based research and medical institutions and with leading international partner institutions and their respective infrastructures.

Job Description

The Scientific Infrastructure Management at the MDC is seeking a Technology Platform Leader for Electron Microscopy to support the research groups in all kind of EM-related projects. The facility has a range of modern resources for specimen preparation and imaging (Thermo Fisher Talos and Morgagni, Zeiss 910, Leica EM ICE and AFS2, several ultramicrotomes including cryosectioning). Currently, a FIB-SEM (Thermo Fisher Helios 5CX) is established together with the neighbour institute FMP on the campus, and we envisage the shift to high resolution 3D methods including block face imaging (FIB-SEM) and array tomography.

The successful candidate will be expected to provide mainly EM - service for a large variety of research projects to discover molecular mechanisms leading to cardiovascular/metabolic diseases, cancer, neurodegeneration and others. The specimen we use range from isolated organelles, cells, organoids and the common animal models like mouse, zebrafish and *C. elegans* until the unique species naked mole rat.

Special emphasis is given to the establishment of the new FIB-SEM technology and the use and development of correlative approaches with the advanced light microscopy facility in the institute. Further close contacts to the recently established high-end Cryo-EM facility of the Charité on the campus Buch, hosting a Thermo Fisher Titan Krios, are expected.

The Technology Platform Leader will be supported by one Postdoc and one technician, both well-experienced and in permanent positions.

The tasks of the platform leader include but are not limited to:

- Organization of the technology platform - project and time management
- Maintenance of microscopes and other equipment
- Provision of a highest quality service in performing EM projects including project consulting, sample preparation, microscopy, quantification and documentation of the data
- Support and training of guest users with different levels of expertise
- Application and further development of new, innovative methods for preparation, imaging and data processing
- Management of multiple projects in parallel
- Networking and advertising the portfolio of the core facility to research groups and collaboration partners

Requirements

Applicants should have a degree in life sciences or medicine. Professional, long-term experience in the area of electron microscopy is essential for this position. Further requirements are:

- Excellent organizational and communication skills, enjoy helping users with different knowledge or cultural backgrounds
- Experiences with working in an EM service facility are of great advantage
- Knowledge of correlative (CLEM) and modern volume-EM technologies (FIB-SEM, array tomography) is expected
- Professional command of both spoken and written German and English
- Passion for science & technology, self-motivation, pro-active attitude

Benefits

- International working environment with communication in English and German
- Interesting career opportunities and a comprehensive range of qualification and further training opportunities
- Compatibility of family and career certified by the berufundfamilie audit
- Varied support for "New Berliners" (Welcome & Family Office)
- Company health management with fitness center

You also benefit from:

- A remuneration in accordance with the collective agreement for the federal public service (TVöD-Bund), including additional company pension schemes
- Flexible working hours and childcare support
- An idyllic green campus, which is easily accessible by bicycle, public transport or car

Employment type:

Head of Technology Platforms

Team:

Electron Microscopy

Registration period:

02.07.2021 - 06.08.2021

Job location:

MDC Berlin-Buch

Salary:

The position is funded according to the German TVöD E14 (Bund) based on experience and qualification.

Scope of employment:

Full time

Desired starting date:

01.10.2021

Employment period:

Fixed Term

The initial contract will be offered for 4 years with the possibility of a subsequent permanent position.

Contact:

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Parity and equal status:

The MDC is committed to diversity and actively promotes equal opportunities for all employees regardless of their origin, religion, ideology, health impairment, age or sexual identity. We look forward to receiving applications from open-minded people who enjoy working in diverse teams. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given special consideration.

Application documents:

Please use our [online portal](#) to submit your application including a cover letter, CV, references as well as relevant educational and degree certificates.

Further Links:

<https://www.mdc-berlin.de/electron-microscopy>

