As a University of Excellence, Universität Hamburg is one of the strongest research universities in Germany. As a flagship university in the greater Hamburg region, it nurtures innovative, cooperative contacts to partners within and outside academia. It also provides and promotes sustainable education, knowledge, and knowledge exchange locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences, Department of Physics, II. Institute of Theoretical Physics invites applications for a

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE FOR THE PROJECT “CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE QUANTUM UNIVERSE” IN THE FIELD OF STRING THEORY/QUANTUM FIELD THEORY**

- SALARY LEVEL 13 TV-L -

The position in accordance with Section 28 subsection 3 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG) commences on 1 October 2021 or earlier.

This is a fixed-term contract in accordance with Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz, WissZeitVG). The term is fixed for a period of 2 years. The position calls for 39 hours per week. This position is also suitable for part time employment.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Duties primarily include teaching and research. Research associates may also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

The Cluster of Excellence “Quantum Universe” performs research to understand mass and gravity at the interface between quantum physics and cosmology. The research team includes leading scientists from mathematics, particle physics, astrophysics, and cosmology at Universität Hamburg and DESY.

The interest of the String Theory Group within the Excellence Cluster centers around mathematical and phenomenological aspects of string theory such as the geometry of string compactifications and relations to quantum gravity, quantum field theory and supergravity, as well as various aspects of holography and integrability.
The String Theory group at Hamburg University (groups of Gleb Arutyunov, Jan Louis, Timo Weigand) works in close collaboration with the DESY Theory Group (including, in particular, the String Theory/Quantum Field Theory groups of Pedro Liendo, Georgios Papathanasiou, Elli Pomoni, Volker Schomerus, Jörg Teschner and Alexander Westphal) and profits from a vibrant and international research environment provided by the Excellence Cluster ‘Quantum Universe’, the Center for Mathematical Physics (ZMP) and the Wolfgang Pauli Center.

The applicant is expected to contribute to the research of the group at an internationally competitive level, with special emphasis on ongoing projects regarding the Swampland Programme of Quantum Gravity and its mathematical or string theoretic foundations.

Postdoctoral research associates will become members of the Quantum Universe research school (QURS) and through this receive offers for academic training, soft skills, and career planning. In addition, they will receive individual budgets, meant to enable them to attend conferences or other educational and supporting measures. Additional travel money for project-specific duties will be made available via the hosting research groups. Postdoctoral research associates may participate in the supervision of doctoral students, teaching at the University, and in the organization of the Cluster via an early career council.

Teaching is expected at the level of 2 hours per week.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

A university degree in a relevant subject plus doctorate. Excellent English communication skills are required. The successful candidate must have proven their ability to perform research in a relevant field at an internationally competitive level.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg promotes equal opportunity. As women are currently underrepresented in this job category at Universität Hamburg according to the evaluation conducted under the Hamburg act on gender equality (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HambGleiG), we encourage women to apply for this position. Equally qualified and suitable female applicants will receive preference.

Qualified disabled candidates or applicants with equivalent status receive preference in the application process.

For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. Jörg Teschner (joerg.teschner@desy.de), Prof. Dr. Timo Weigand, (timo.weigand@desy.de), or Dr. Alexander Westphal (alexander.westphal@desy.de) or consult our websites at www.qu.uni-hamburg.de and https://unith.desy.de/.

Applications should include a cover letter, a tabular curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s). Please send applications by 30 December 2020 to: timo.weigand@desy.de.

Please do not submit original documents as we are not able to return them. Any documents submitted will be destroyed after the application process has concluded.