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 Biology) together with Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (Department of Experimental Limnology) invites applications for a

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE FOR THE PROJECT “PHD-PROJECT: METABOLIC PATHWAYS OF AGGREGATE-ASSOCIATED MICROBES ALONG ESTUARINE GRADIENTS” - 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 January 1, 2021.

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 three years. The position calls for 65% of standard work hours per week.*

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates may also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications.

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

The PhD student will be a member of the DFG funded Research Training Group BiCEst (Biota-mediated effects on Carbon cycling in Estuaries) and the lab of Experimental Limnology at the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries. The PhD student will investigate effects of microbial community composition, key metabolic pathways and metabolic interactions of aggregate-associated microbes on organic matter degradation along estuarine gradients. Field samples along the salinity gradient of the Elbe estuary will be taken to analyze effects of changes in microbial community composition, key metabolic pathways and metabolic interactions of aggregate-associated microbes on organic matter degradation. Further, effects of different organic matter sources and microbial communities on organic matter aggregation and microbial degradation will be studied using an array of molecular and biogeochemical methods including whole 16S RNA gene sequencing and stable isotope tracers. Focus will be set on interactions between microbes and their relevance for carbon.

* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.
**REQUIREMENTS:**

A university degree in a relevant field, i.e. Biology, Molecular Life Sciences, Biochemistry, Microbiology or related field. The successful candidate should have knowledge and experience in general microbiology, the physiology and genetics of bacteria and should have expertise on work with microbial consortia or biofilms. Experience with microbial community analyses including Illumina amplicon sequencing, functional metagenomics and transcriptomics would be useful. Further knowledge in biochemistry, especially in greenhouse gas measurements is helpful. Solid knowledge in scientific writing, team spirit, and at least basic knowledge on bioinformatics and biochemistry are required. Good oral and written English skills are necessary.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg promotes equal opportunity. As men 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 men to apply for this position. Equally qualified and suitable male applicants will receive preference.

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

For further information, please contact hgrossart@igb-berlin.de or consult our website at www.grk2530-bicest.uni-hamburg.de. The selection procedure includes two steps: In a first step, qualified candidates will be identified based on the written applications. In a second step, the candidates who successfully passed step 1 will be invited to a three days selection workshop (presumably digital). This workshop is scheduled for September 14-16, 2020.

Applications should include a motivation letter, a tabular curriculum vitae, copies and transcripts of degree certificate(s) and a summary of the MA thesis. Please send the applications as one pdf-document by August 1, 2020 to: grk-bicest.biologie@uni-hamburg.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.