Adipocyte Brain Crosstalk

PhD Position in Effects of subchronic activation of brown adipose tissue in humans

University of Lübeck Lübeck

The Graduiertenkolleg 1957 “Adipocyte-Brain Crosstalk” was established in 2014 with the funding from the German Research Foundation. It aims at providing structured doctoral training at the interface of neuroscience, biology and translational medicine. The DFG-funded Graduiertenkolleg 1957 “Adipocyte-Brain Crosstalk” studies the effects of adipose tissue hormones on CNS function and, in turn, the control of adipose tissue physiology by the brain. We are looking for highly motivated candidates for the following PhD project (supervisors in brackets). Tentative start: **May 2020**. Earlier start date from January 2020 could be discussed with the PIs in the interview.

Activities and responsibilities

Supervisor: Prof. Sebastian Schmid / PD Dr. Britta Wilms, Medical Clinic I, Metabolic Core Unit

Project Description:

Brown adipose tissue (BAT) is a highly specialized type of fat tissue showing potential metabolic benefit on glucose and lipid metabolism when activated. However, metabolic effects and pathways of subchronic BAT activation in everyday life is not sufficiently characterized to date. This project aims at studying BAT activity in health and disease and its consecutive effects on human glucose and lipid metabolism.

Experimental Methods:

- Clinical experimental study setting, working with healthy normal-weight/obese human subjects and patients with type 2 diabetes
- Metabolic phenotyping (intraveneous glucose tolerance testing, hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp procedure, body composition by BIA and whole body plethysmography)
- Hormone analytics
- Lipidomics
- Clock gene expression and microRNA profiles

https://www.grk1957.uni-luebeck.de/research/3rd-generation-projects/effects-of-subchronic-activation-of-bat-in-humans.html

Qualification profile

- Research-based master’s degree or equivalent (e.g. diploma) passed with an above-average grade in nutrition & biomedicine, biology, biochemistry, molecular life science, neuroscience, pharmacology or a related subject (if you are working on the master thesis and expect to graduate until end of 2019/beginning of 2020, you can still apply - please state it in your motivation letter and upload the transcript to date)
- Excellent English language skills in speaking and writing
- Pro-active attitude, good communication skills and ability to work independently in an interdisciplinary team

We offer

- 3-year employment contract, salaries according to German civil service tariff (TV-L 13, 65%)
- All research groups are located at the Center of Brain, Behavior and Metabolism (CBBM) with state-of-the-art lab facilities incl. MRT scanner, metabolic core unit, LC-MS, microscopy
- Comprehensive academic support, e.g. project-specific courses, soft skills training, funding for research stays abroad and international conferences, individual career coaching
- Relaxed life style in city of Lübeck among many UNESCO World Heritage sites and directly on the Baltic Sea coastline and part of the Metropolitan area of Hamburg, Germany's second largest city and home to a wide range of cultural and leisure attractions

Send application to

Application deadline: 30.10.2019

https://www.grk1957.uni-luebeck.de/grk-1957/application-form.html

The complete application should include

- a letter of motivation
- a detailed CV
- master's degree certificate AND transcript
- a summary of the master thesis
- bachelor's degree certificate AND transcript
- two letters of recommendation (if you do not have the letters immediately available, please give us the contact details of two referees)

Documents issued in a language other than English or German must be translated into English AND certified by a public notary/German Consulate with an official seal.

Vollzeit, Befristete Anstellung Promotionsstelle Aktualisiert am 04.10.2019