

The **Leippe** Lab at the Rudolf Virchow Center for Integrative and Translational Bioimaging, University of Würzburg, Germany invites applications for



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Center for Integrative and  
Translational Bioimaging

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## 1 Postdoctoral position (f/m/d) – membrane transporter biochemistry

*Drive a discovery cycle end to end: run functional-genomics screens, then prove through rigorous biochemistry which hits are real.*

The Leippe Lab develops genetically encoded fluorescent biosensors and combines them with functional genomics to make metabolism visible in real time. We engineer high-performance sensors for intracellular metabolites by screening pooled biosensor variant libraries at large scale directly in human cells, and pair this with machine learning to understand how protein sequence drives biosensor performance. We then deploy these sensors in CRISPR screens to tackle fundamental questions in metabolic compartmentalization and transporter biology. The advertised position sits at the discovery end of that pipeline: turning what our sensors reveal into hard mechanistic insight.

### Why join us

We are a young, ambitious lab, and that is a feature, not a footnote. You will pick up a proven, de-risked screening pipeline and use it to drive your own discovery cycle - from running the screen, to nominating candidates, to the biochemistry that proves which one is real. That means a project you genuinely own, frequent and direct interaction with the PI, and room to shape both the science and the lab as it grows. You will also be the person who brings depth in protein and membrane-transport biochemistry to a group built around biosensor engineering and functional genomics - a complementary, intellectually independent role, and an ideal platform from which to build toward your own future group. We are committed to making sure our people leave here better scientists than they arrived, well positioned for whatever comes next, in academia, industry, or beyond.

We are a place that takes the work, and each other, seriously: we love the technology we build and the biology we chase, we dig until we understand things mechanistically, and we never lose sight of why any of it matters. We work collaboratively and openly - shared data, electronic lab notebooks, reagents, and ideas.

### Who we're looking for

Essential:

- A PhD in biochemistry, cell/molecular biology, or a related field
- Strong hands-on experience in protein biochemistry: expression, purification, and the careful sample preparation that downstream in vitro assays depend on
- Care, rigor, and patience - validating a membrane transporter is demanding work that rewards meticulous experimental design
- Proficiency in English (the working language of the lab)

Desirable:

- Experience with membrane or transport proteins, reconstitution (e.g. proteoliposomes), or functional transport assays
- A track record of taking a project from candidate to mechanism

A plus:

- Experience with metabolic flux / isotope-tracing approaches, mass spectrometry-based readouts
- Experience with functional genomics or pooled CRISPR screens (or eagerness to learn - we can train this)
- Comfort with quantitative data analysis (Python, R, or command-line tools)

We care more about how you think and how you work at the bench than about a perfect match to this list - if the project excites you and you bring real biochemical depth, get in touch.

## What we offer

The Rudolf Virchow Center is a highly competitive international research institute with outstanding infrastructure, including in-house access to state-of-the-art instrumentation and an extensive range of modern biophysical and cell biological equipment. We are embedded in a stimulating cross-disciplinary environment together with our partners at the Biocenter, the physics department, the Max Planck Research Group in Systems Immunology, the Institute for Molecular Infection Biology (IMIB), the Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI), and the University Hospital Würzburg.

Würzburg sits in the beautiful, wine-growing region of Franconia, close to Frankfurt (1 hour by train) and Munich (2 hours).

The fully-funded position will start **1<sup>st</sup> November 2026** and is initially offered for **one year** with extension upon positive evaluation.

The salary follows the Collective Agreement for the Public Service of the German Federal States, TV-L. You will have access to public-service pension provision (VBL), health care, **and 30 days of annual leave in addition to 13 public holidays in Bavaria**. Our Welcome Center supports international researchers with accommodation and administrative matters, and the University of Würzburg offers support for researchers with children, including flexible working hours and childcare.

The University of Würzburg is an equal opportunity employer. As such, we explicitly encourage applications from qualified women. Severely handicapped applicants will be given preferential consideration when equally qualified.

## INTERESTED?

Applications including a cover letter, a detailed CV (2 pages), a short summary of past research projects (1 page, excluding references), copies of certificates, and the contact information of two referees, should be sent preferably via email as a single pdf file (not exceeding 10 MB) to [sabine.sattler@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:sabine.sattler@uni-wuerzburg.de) by 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

Alternatively, application documents may be sent as hard copies to:

Rudolf-Virchow-Zentrum  
Universität Würzburg  
z.H. Sabine Sattler  
Josef-Schneider-Str. 2/ Haus D15  
97080 Würzburg  
Germany



Note: Please send only copies. For financial reasons, application documents cannot be returned. They will be destroyed shortly after completion of the selection process. If you enclose a postage-paid envelope, the application documents will be returned to you three months after completion of the selection process.