

# Job advertisement

Vacancy ID: 344/2021

Closing date: 30.09.2021



**FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
JENA**

Friedrich Schiller University is a traditional university with a strong research profile rooted in the heart of Germany. As a university covering all disciplines, it offers a wide range of subjects. Its research is focused on the areas Light—Life—Liberty. It is closely networked with non-research institutions, research companies and renowned cultural institutions. With around 18,000 students and more than 8,600 employees, the university plays a major role in shaping Jena's character as a cosmopolitan and future-oriented city.

The newly established Viral Ecology and Omics group aims to study the role of viruses in the Microverse. To do this, we combine microbiological and eco/evolutionary experiments with molecular biology, microscopy, (meta-) genomics, bioinformatics, artificial intelligence, and computational modelling. Our level S1/S2 wet lab will feature a state-of-the-art laboratory automation system with high throughput plate reader, microscopy, microbiology, and molecular biology facilities. Our dry lab will feature three 3Tb nodes and GPU processors, incorporated in the compute cluster of the Friedrich Schiller University.

Viruses are fascinating little entities, but how much do we really understand about their roles in shaping the Microverse? Over the past decade, metagenomics has revealed an unprecedented diversity of viruses in many biomes, while cutting-edge experimental and computational technologies provide the tools to assess their functioning and dynamics. The next step is to put the pieces together and understand how viruses affect microbial behaviour, interactions, and evolution. Do you want to contribute and shape the future of viral ecology research? Join the new Viral Ecology and Omics group of Prof. Bas E. Dutilh as a:

## **Bioinformatic Programmer/Data Steward (m/f/d)**

The position is to be filled at the earliest possible date. The new professorship is part of the Cluster of Excellence *Balance of the Microverse* ([microverse-cluster.de](http://microverse-cluster.de)). The Cluster combines expertise in life, material, optical and computational sciences to elucidate fundamental principles of the interactions and functions in microbial communities in diverse habitats. We aim to identify the shared characteristics of disturbed or polluted ecosystems as well as infectious diseases on the microbiome level, and develop strategies for their remediation by targeted interventions.

### **We are looking for:**

A bioinformatician to support the dry lab activities of our group. You will assist the PI in the establishment and maintenance of our compute cluster, databases, bioinformatics tools, as well as support the group by building pipelines and performing bioinformatic analyses. The main focus will be on genomics and metagenomics data, so experience with relevant public databases and analysis tools is required. Additional tasks include training students, establishment and maintenance of best bioinformatics practices and documentation, building web-apps, and day-to-day computer trouble-shooting.

### **Your responsibilities:**

- Train and supervise group members, including those with little or no experience.
- Support PhD students, Master students and undergraduate project students.
- Process datasets, create and maintain pipelines for often-used computational tasks.
- Organise installation, updates, and maintenance of the group's software.
- Manage database download, update bioinformatic tools, create patches or raise issues.
- Assist the PI in setting up the new dry lab, order equipment through appropriate channels, etc.
- Establish and maintain best practices and dry lab rules, take responsibility for protocols, training, inspections and documentation.
- Manage the compute system to ensure efficient and orderly usage by the group.
- Collaborate productively with experimental and computational researchers.



### Your profile:

- A BSc or equivalent degree with a focus on bioinformatics and microbial/viral (meta-) genomics.
- Experience with Linux, Bash, Python, R, Git, API.
- Specialist knowledge and hands-on expertise in standard genomics techniques.
- Experience with microbial/viral genomics and/or metagenomics is highly beneficial.
- Expertise with database maintenance and/or data stewardship is beneficial.
- Demonstrable experience with the tasks and responsibilities listed above.
- Track record of supervision and training of students or junior researchers.
- Enthusiasm and talent for working on a variety of projects in parallel and for interdisciplinary research.
- Excellent communication skills, ability to work as a team and to interact with people from diverse nationalities and scientific backgrounds.
- Strong motivation, excellent organisation skills and ability to contribute to a friendly and collaborative working environment.
- Fluency in English is required, both written and spoken. Fluency in German is highly advantageous. Fluency in other languages is a plus.

### We offer:

- A highly communicative atmosphere within an energetic scientific network.
- Embedding in a leading research group in the field of viral ecology and metagenomics.
- A comprehensive continuing education programme and individual qualification and development measures.
- Jena – City of Science: a young and lively town with a vibrant local cultural agenda. Jena is among the most liveable cities in Germany. Situated on the Saale River and surrounded by the famous Thuringian Forest, this city is ideal for lovers of nature and hiking.
- A family-friendly working environment with a variety of offers for families: University Family Office 'JUniFamilie' and flexible childcare ('JUniKinder).
- University health promotion and a wide range of university sports activities.
- Attractive fringe benefits, e.g. capital formation benefits (VL), Job Ticket (benefits for public transport), and an occupational pension (VBL).
- Remuneration based on the provisions of the Collective Agreement for the Public Sector of the Federal States (TV-L) up to salary scale E10 (depending on the candidate's personal qualifications) including a special annual payment in accordance with the collective agreement.

The full-time position (40 hours per week) is initially for two years with the possibility to be extended subject to suitability. The Friedrich Schiller University Jena is an equal opportunity employer and part-time contracts can be discussed.

To promote gender equality in science, applications by woman are especially welcome. Candidates with severe disabilities will be given preference in the case of equal qualifications and suitability.

Applications in English should comprise a cover letter, a detailed curriculum vitae, copies of academic certificates and a list of publications. Please submit your application by email as a single PDF file, stating the vacancy ID 344/2021 by 30 September 2021 to:

[dez5-bewerbung@uni-jena.de](mailto:dez5-bewerbung@uni-jena.de)

Since all application documents will be duly destroyed after the recruitment process, we ask you to submit only copies of your documents. For further information for applicants, please also refer to [www4.uni-jena.de/stellenmarkt\\_hinweis.html](http://www4.uni-jena.de/stellenmarkt_hinweis.html) (in German) Please also note the information on the collection of personal data at [www4.uni-jena.de/en/jobs\\_information\\_collecting\\_personal\\_data.html](http://www4.uni-jena.de/en/jobs_information_collecting_personal_data.html)