

Group Leader

Developmental Biology

The **Developmental Biology (DB)** Unit is recruiting highly motivated scientists taking original approaches to elucidate the principles of multicellular development. Of particular interest are questions relating to the emergence of a dynamic organization, at all scales, and the interplay between living systems and their environment that underlies developmental and phenotypic plasticity. Researchers in the unit use classical and develop new model organisms, and combine these with the power of quantitative experimentation, genetics, imaging and -omics approaches, synthetic biology, reduced (in vitro) systems and theoretical modelling, to create an integrative approach to modern developmental biology.

Your role

You will lead a research group to pursue highly ambitious and original research at the frontier of developmental biology. The new colleagues will be immersed in the EMBL environment, with extensive in-house collaborations, access to excellent graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and support from cutting-edge facilities, including genomics, transgenesis, metabolomics, mass-spectrometry, and microscopy.

You have

The successful candidate will present a highly original and ambitious research plan that concisely describes the background and status of the questions that will be addressed, the experimental strategies and methods that will be employed, and the ultimate goals. A PhD degree in the Natural Sciences is expected. Candidates with a background in physics and modelling of developmental processes, in ecology or environmental biology and development are also encouraged to apply.

EMBL's future scientific directions

EMBL's future scientific directions, Molecules to Ecosystems, include a vision to advance our understanding of ecosystems at the molecular level, applying expertise in molecular biology to study life in its natural context. New research

Location: Heidelberg, Germany

Staff Category: Faculty Staff

Contract Duration: 5 years

Grading: 9

Closing Date: 20 September 2020

Reference Number: HD01798

areas will focus on applying experimental, computational and theoretical approaches to study at multiple levels (molecules, cells, tissues and populations) how organisms interact with each other and respond to environmental change. DB will be happy to host developmental biology activities related to the new [transversal themes](#).

- [Planetary Biology](#) – aiming to understand how microbes, plants, and animals interact with each other and with their abiotic environments at the molecular level.
- [Microbial Ecosystems](#) – studying microorganisms in communities and how they interact with their environments, including host organisms. Infection biology will be an important focus.
- [Human Ecosystems](#) – applying computational and experimental approaches to reveal the impact of the environment on human health and physiology, both at the individual and the population level.
- [Theory](#) – using modelling, mathematical reasoning, and conceptual approaches to study complex and dynamic biological systems.

Why join us

EMBL appoints group leaders from early on in their career and provides a very supportive environment for your first independent position in order to achieve your research goals. The initial “Lead your Lab” management training is provided for all incoming group leaders.

EMBL offers a highly collaborative, uniquely international culture. The various EMBL units are strongly connected and cross-unit collaborations are not only possible but also

strongly encouraged. It fosters top quality, interdisciplinary research by promoting a vibrant environment consisting of young independent research groups with access to outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and core facilities.

EMBL is an inclusive, equal opportunity employer offering attractive conditions and benefits appropriate to an international research organization with a very collegial and family friendly working environment. The remuneration package comprises a competitive salary, a comprehensive pension scheme, medical, educational and other social benefits, as well as financial support for relocation and installation, including your family and the availability of an excellent child care facility on campus. EMBL is committed to internationality, diversity and equality, and as such encourages applications from underrepresented groups.

What else you need to know

We are Europe's flagship research laboratory for the life sciences – an intergovernmental organisation performing scientific research in disciplines including molecular biology, physics, chemistry and computer science. We are an international, innovative and interdisciplinary laboratory with more than 1700 employees from more than 80 countries, operating across six sites, in Heidelberg (HQ), Barcelona, Hinxton near Cambridge, Hamburg, Grenoble and Rome. The working language of the institute is English.

In your online application, you will be asked to include a cover letter, your CV, the names and contact details of 3 referees and a concise description of research interests & future research plans, typically not exceeding five pages. In addition, you will be asked to provide your potential interests in one (max two) [transversal themes](#) and are also invited to apply for multiple positions if relevant:

[Group Leader – Structural Cell Biology/Cryo-Electron Tomography \(HD01794\)](#)
[Group Leader – Computational Biology/Bioinformatics \(HD01795\)](#)
[Group Leader – Cell Biology and Biophysics \(HD01796\)](#)

Interviews are planned for 16 and 17 November 2020. Same interview conditions will be applied to all candidates, despite of the potential travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 situation. If you provide additional choices, interviews might also happen between 10–26 November 2020.

Information on Group Leader appointments can be found here http://www.embl.org/gl_faq.

An initial contract of 5 years will be offered to the successful candidate. This is foreseen to be extended to a maximum of 9 years, subject to an external review.

Further information about the position can be obtained from the Head of Unit, [Anne Ephrussi](#).

Please apply online through: www.embl.org/jobs