

The University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna is active in teaching and research and provides services in connection with ensuring animal health in Austria. These tasks represent our contribution to maintaining the health of humans and their animal companions as well as to producing healthy food.

**To meet our objectives, our University Clinic for Swine (Department for Farm Animals and Veterinary Public Health) is looking for a**

## **University Assistant**

### **PhD candidate for a project investigating the immune response against porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV)**

<b>Grade:</b>	B1
<b>Level of employment:</b>	30 hours
<b>Length of employment:</b>	3 years
<b>Deadline for applications:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> of March 2018

#### **Job Summary**

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student to work on a project investigating the immune response, in particular the cellular immune response, of PRRSV infected and/or vaccinated pigs. PRRSV is still one of the most economically important diseases in swine production worldwide. Many of the mechanisms leading to PRRSV induced reproductive failure are still poorly understood. Also many aspects of PRRSV related immune responses remain unclear. Therefore, the project aims at identifying local cellular immune responses in the reproductive tract of PRRSV infected pregnant sows. Members of the University Clinic for Swine and the Institute of Immunology at the Vetmeduni Vienna have profound experience in the investigation of viral host-pathogen interactions in the pig (e.g. Ladinig et al., Vet Res. 2015; 46(1):107; Ladinig et al., Vet Res 2014, 45:128; Talker SC et al., 2016, J Virol 90: 9364-9382), thereby providing an excellent working environment for this project.

The successful candidate will become a member of the Graduate School for Pig and Poultry Medicine (PaP) <http://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/de/graduate-school-pig-and-poultry-medicine/> at the vetmeduni Vienna, which includes advanced training on all aspects of infectious diseases in pigs and poultry.

#### **Responsibilities**

- Performance of PRRSV vaccination and infection experiments, generation of samples for laboratory analyses
- Analyses of samples from PRRSV experiments by immunological and molecular techniques, comprising flow cytometry, ELISpot analyses, PCR, staining of tissue sections and fluorescence microscopy
- Presentation/ publication of results at international meetings and in peer-reviewed journals

#### **Necessary knowledge and qualifications**

- Graduation at a Master's level (or equivalent) in veterinary medicine or biosciences
- Excellent communication skills in spoken and written English (B2-level)

- Strong interest in swine medicine
- Sound knowledge in basic immunology

#### **Additional skills and abilities**

- Theoretical background and practical experience in the field of swine medicine, especially in the area of infectious diseases are an asset
- Ability to work as part of a team as well as independently
- Strong interest in biomedical research and dedication to laboratory work
- First practical experience in laboratory work will be favorable

#### **Contact /Further Information**

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#### **Minimum salary**

The minimum salary for university staff is regulated by the collective contract and at the level given above amounts to EUR 2.096,00 gross per month (14 times/year). The minimum salary may be increased when previous employment and other salary components are taken into account.

#### **Applications**

Please submit applications quoting the **reference number 2018/0304** via e-mail (preferably) to [bewerbungen@vetmeduni.ac.at](mailto:bewerbungen@vetmeduni.ac.at) or by post to the Personnel Department of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna. Please do not forget to include the reference number or we shall be unable to relate your application to the correct vacancy announcement.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is attempting to increase the proportion of female staff, particularly in senior positions, and in accordance with § 41 of the 2002 Universities Act it is striving to attain a balanced representation of men and women, especially on its scientific staff. Applications from qualified women are thus particularly welcomed. If women are underrepresented (below 50%), female applicants who are as well qualified as the best qualified male applicants will be given preference, provided that there are no strong reasons for favouring a particular male candidate.

Applicants have no entitlement to reimbursement of any travel or accommodation costs they may incur as a result of the application procedure.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is proud to have been awarded the certificate "*hochschuleundfamilie*" (career and family). We should thus be especially pleased to receive applications from people with families. Applications from persons with disabilities are similarly welcome.