The research group "Cell-based Tissue Regeneration" at the Chair of Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine, University Hospital Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany, is looking for a highly motivated PhD student (f/m/d).

**Project description:**
The Chair of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine (TERM) develops in close collaboration with the Translational Center Regenerative Therapies (TLC-RT) of the Fraunhofer ISC Würzburg 3D tissue models based on biological/synthetic scaffolds combined with cell lines, primary cells, or pluripotent/multipotent stem cells that are used in basic biomedical research, transplantation medicine, drug testing or applied cancer research. At TERM, the research group "Cell-based Tissue Regeneration" focuses on 3D in vitro models of the human gastro-intestinal (GI) tract that are based on a biological ECM scaffold and primary intestinal organoids. As part of the DFG Research Training Group 2157 (https://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/grk2157/startseite/), we recently revealed novel aspects of Salmonella virulence programs and host defense mechanisms in Salmonella infected GI models. In the second funding period of the Research Training Group 2157, the aim of the PhD project is to develop a multicellular in vitro model of the human intestine combining the epithelium with components of the intestinal immune system as well as the native microbiome in order to study host-commensal-pathogen interactions at the next level in vitro. The project will utilize organoid culture as well as advanced molecular and cell biology techniques that are well-embedded at the institute.

**Qualification profile:**
- Master or diploma in biology, biomedicine, biochemistry or related fields
- Strong background/interest in the field of gastro-intestinal and infection biology, immunology, tissue engineering
- Advanced knowledge in cell culture (optimal: organoid culture), immunohistological staining methods, fluorescence microscopy, molecular biological and biochemical techniques
- Fluent English, excellent oral and written scientific communication skills
- High flexibility and the ability to work as part of a team and independently

**We offer:**
- Expert training for all required methods, close supervision/support by the PI and the opportunity for further training
- Excellent national and international research environment
- Regular team meetings, in-house methodology seminars, journal clubs and progress reports
- Participation in national and international scientific meetings and conferences
- Stimulating atmosphere within a team of young and enthusiastic scientists
- High quality equipped laboratory rooms

The position is situated within the DFG Research Training Group 2157 “3D Infect – 3D Tissue Models for Studying Microbial Infections by Human Pathogens” and offers a 3 years (TV-L E13 - 60%) salary. A disabled person will be employed preferably, if qualifications are equal.

The position is available from 1 October 2020 at the earliest. Deadline for application is 30 September 2020. Please send your application, preferably in electronic form, with the usual supporting documents, stating the earliest date on which you can start work to Dr. Daniela Zdzieblo (daniela.zdzieblo@uni-wuerzburg.de) and/or PD Dr. Marco Metzger (marco.metzger@uni-wuerzburg.de).