The Department of Meiosis (Dr. Melina Schuh) at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry is seeking a

**Postdoctoral Fellow (f/m/d)**

to study the age-related decline in female fertility

(Code Number 31-19)

**The project**

Female fertility declines dramatically as women approach their forties. The mechanisms behind this decline are still largely unclear. The Department of Meiosis investigates female meiosis and the maternal age effect using advanced live cell microscopy, loss-of-function and next-generation sequencing techniques. Our laboratory has pioneered various techniques in this field, including the first studies of chromosome segregation in live human oocytes, and the recent establishment of Trim-Away, a method for the acute removal of proteins from cells. The successful applicant will carry out work towards understanding and counteracting the age-related decline in female fertility. The candidate will be hosted in our main lab at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, but will also be able to interact with our satellite laboratory at Bourn Hall Clinic, Cambridge, UK, the world’s first in vitro fertilization (IVF) clinic founded by the pioneers of IVF Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe.

**Our lab**

The successful candidate will work in a collaborative, highly international research environment. He/she will have access to several high-end microscopes, including light sheet microscopes, confocal microscopes equipped with Zeiss’ Airyscan super-resolution microscopy, as well as a high-end STED microscope for super-resolution microscopy. In addition, we have state-of-the-art equipment for oocyte micromanipulation, tissue culture, molecular biology, protein biochemistry and computational biology.

**Our institute**

The Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry with about 850 employees is one of the largest institutes of the Max Planck Society. Three Nobel Prizes have been awarded so far for outstanding research carried out at the institute, with Prof. Stefan Hell being the most recent Nobel laureate. The institute offers various core facilities, a vibrant research atmosphere, and an active postdoc community. It is located in Göttingen, an international city with around 130,000 inhabitants, which hosts one of Germany’s oldest universities.

**Required skills**

The successful candidate should hold a PhD degree in natural sciences. He/she should be highly motivated, with excellent communication skills, and able to work independently, as well as member of a multidisciplinary team.

The position is funded for 3 years in the first instance. The payment is according to the qualification and professional experience and based on the TVöD guidelines.

The Max Planck Society is committed to increasing the number of individuals with disabilities in its workforce and therefore encourages applications from such qualified individuals.

Interested candidates should send their applications, including a motivation letter, CV, contact details of three referees, and list of publications, preferably via e-mail as a single PDF file until 17.01.2020 to ausschreibung31-19@mpibpc.mpg.de

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