



IUF

LEIBNIZ RESEARCH
INSTITUTE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
MEDICINE

Düsseldorf, the capital of NRW, is located in the core of Europe, at the border with Belgium, the Nederland and France; it hosts a vibrant international community and a big airport connected daily to all EU and non-EU countries. HHU offers excellent research environment and infrastructure, such as the Biological Medical Research Centre, the Centre for Advanced Imaging, and the Centre for Structural Studies as well as long established research links to the University Clinics and the Leibniz Research Institutes (i.e. IUF, DDZ). Close vicinity with the University of Cologne.

OUR LAB: Mitochondria are vital organelles. In our lab we primarily exploit the roundworm *Caenorhabditis elegans* as a model organism to address a very exciting and fundamental question: How dietary and environmental interventions impact mitochondria-associated neuronal disease and aging? We combine complementary genetic, molecular, behavioural and omics approaches to specifically identify and target mitochondrial stress responses, with the ultimate goal of counteracting neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders thus promoting healthy lifespan (e.g. Maglioni et al. *Nat Commun*, 2022; Schiavi et al. *Cell Death Discov*, 2023). For more info [Natascia Ventura Lab](#).

THE PROJECT: you will use state-of-the-art methodologies to specifically assess the potential beneficial effect of selected natural compounds (Maglioni et al. *Cells* 2021) against the neurotoxicity-induced by genetic or pharmacological inhibition of complex I and II of the mitochondrial respiratory chain.

YOUR PROFILE: Master of Science in Biology (or related subjects), strong interest in neuroscience, enthusiastic and highly motivated, English proficiency, eagerness for independent and team work, previous experience with *C. elegans* is not mandatory (but it is a plus).

WE OFFER: a 3-year DFG funded position (salary and social benefits based on TVL-13 65%), one-year probation phase, possible extension (6-12 months), support in reconciling work and family life, flexible working time models, career development support (e.g. training, workshops, conferences).

HOW TO APPLY: Applications should be sent (one pdf only) to natascia.ventura@uni-duesseldorf.de and should include curriculum vitae with contact details of two referees, proof of qualification with grades and motivation letter. The position must be filled by end of April 2024 (later starting date possible upon request).