


GAIN TIME TO THINK!



College for Life Sciences Fellowship Program Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

We offer junior life sciences scholars from around the world an opportunity to take a break from the lab and immerse themselves in an intellectually and culturally diverse environment.

At the College for Life Sciences you will gain time to develop a project of your choice, to formulate and pursue daring and unusual ideas, and to interact with scientists and intellectuals from the widest possible spectrum of academic fields and traditions.

Our goal is to promote a kind of science that transcends disciplinary boundaries and goes beyond established issues and approaches.

Each year the Wissenschaftskolleg welcomes internationally recognized senior as well as promising junior scholars in all fields of knowledge, including the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. The College for Life Sciences addresses early-career life scientists and invites them to become part of this “learning community”.

During your stay you will join colloquia and lectures, engage in stimulating conversations, and participate in inspiring workshops which will help you grow intellectually, initiate collaborations, and develop your own career.





Our Requirements

For a stay at the Wissenschaftskolleg you should bring intellectual curiosity, an interest in disciplines not your own, and a readiness to engage in discussions beyond your own disciplinary boundaries. The College expects you to work in Berlin for the duration of your fellowship and to integrate fully in the community and life of the Wissenschaftskolleg, such as the weekly internal colloquia as well as the common meals.

You must have obtained your doctorate by the start of your fellowship, and we also require that you have at least one lead-author publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Through the College for Life Sciences we promote scientists at the beginning

of their career, i.e. postdocs, junior group leaders, lecturers and assistant, associate and junior professors. There are no restrictions regarding your discipline of origin in the life sciences, nationality, or age etc. If you have been a principal investigator for longer than five years, though, you are advised to apply for a regular fellowship at the Wissenschaftskolleg. Applications from scientists working at a Berlin research institute cannot be taken into consideration. Please include in your application a project outline (about 1000 words), a letter stating your motivation for wishing to obtain a fellowship (about 500 words), your complete curriculum vitae and a list of your publications. You are completely free to choose the project that you will pursue at the Wissenschaftskolleg; we impose no thematic presettings whatsoever. You also have the option of undertaking a project in concert with other colleagues and submitting joint proposals. If you are in doubt about your eligibility, please get in touch with us.

Selection

Along with the candidate's previous scientific achievements, the quality and potential of the research proposal submitted play a crucial role in the selection decision and are evaluated by external experts.

We also take into account the suitability of the applicant for the Wissenschaftskolleg's specific milieu. The most promising candidates are then invited for an interview. Every spring we select Fellows for the upcoming academic year, which starts in autumn.



Berliner Empfang 2021 with Helga Nowotny, Fellow 1981/1982

BENEFITS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

- Three- to six-months residency at the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin
- A full stipend based on your previous salary
- Studio accommodation on campus
- Freedom to pursue a project of your choice
- Insight into new areas of knowledge and research cultures
- Integration into a unique international community of Fellows
- Access to Berlin's excellent scholarly and scientific community
- Access to the Wissenschaftskolleg's outstanding library and IT services

The Wissenschaftskolleg cannot provide any laboratory space.
For more details please visit: wiko-berlin.de/cfls



Studio apartment



Campus Villa housing the library and apartments

WHAT FORMER LIFE SCIENTISTS HAVE SAID ABOUT WIKO

Berlin is a bustling hub for biomedical research, and with Grunewald as my base camp, I was in an excellent position to make and foster new connections, friendships, and collaborations across Berlin.

Simon Elsässer, College for Life Sciences Fellow 2018/2019

Wiko put me back on track. The Fellows, in their questions, their colloquia, their curiosity, and their conversation, generously shared with me not what they do, but how they do it. They reminded me that scholarship is a process, not a product. Within our Fellow group, we defined one another by the questions we asked and the approaches we took to tackling them, not by the answers we got.

Amanda Kyle Gibson, John Maynard Smith Prize Fellow 2018/2019

A Wiko fellowship was the solution to the problem that all interdisciplinary scientists have, and which is accentuated for early career experimentalists: the difficulty in finding time to think, read and write... I came to synthesize my thoughts and research the literature for a new project... it was incredibly valuable to have this wealth of expertise close by and so easy to draw upon.

Iruka Okeke, Fellow College for Life Sciences 2010/2011

College for Life Sciences
Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
Institute for Advanced Study
Wallotstrasse 19
14193 Berlin
Germany



Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Tel : +49 30 / 89 001 214
wiko-berlin.de/cfls

For all questions regarding the College for Life Sciences,
please contact Dr. Jana Petri, Academic Coordinator
cfls@wiko-berlin.de



Petra Gehring, Fellow 2010/2011, Campus Garden