

The **Jena School for Microbial Communication (JSMC)** is funded by the German **Excellence Initiative** and comprises more than 150 PhD students who are educated in a structured, interdisciplinary training program based on top-level fundamental research. Five faculties of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena, six non-university research institutions as well as twelve partner companies are participating in this cutting edge research and training program which includes an innovative PhD program, career development and intensive sociocultural care.

“Beutenberg-Stipendien” is a PhD fellowship program within JSMC, funded by the federal initiative “ProExzellenz” of the Free State of Thuringia. Research projects within this program are situated at interfaces between life sciences and physics. The projects will be mentored by at least two supervisors at collaborating research institutions in Jena.

The Graduate School of Excellence ‘JSMC’ invites applications for

“Beutenberg Promotionstipendien – Physics meets Life Sciences”

(6 PhD student fellowships on various research topics)

We expect:

- a Master’s degree (or equivalent) in Natural or Life Sciences (e.g., Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Medical Sciences, etc.). Candidates about to earn their degree are welcome to apply.
- high motivation and interest to join one of the interdisciplinary research areas of JSMC
- creativity and interest to shape your own thesis project
- an integrative and cooperative personality
- very good communication skills in English (instruction language at JSMC)

We offer:

- research projects at the interface between life sciences and physics/technology
- a highly communicative atmosphere within a scientific network providing top-level research conditions
- a PhD stipend paid according to the rules of the DFG (German Research Foundation)
- a comprehensive mentoring program with efficient supervision by a team of supervisors situated a life science and a physics/technology institution
- a structured PhD training program including courses in novel technologies and soft skills
- Jena – the **German City of Science 2008**: a young and lively city with dynamic business activities, successful scientific centres of innovation and a vibrant cultural scene around the famous Friedrich Schiller University

Friedrich Schiller University Jena is an equal opportunity employer.

The application procedure is handled online exclusively via the JSMC website:

www.jsmc.uni-jena.de

To apply, please acquaint yourself with the vacant PhD projects and the application process described on this website. Applications can only be considered upon timely receipt of the completed ‘Statement of Interest’ form submitted by email to **apply-jsmc@uni-jena.de** (**application deadline: Nov 29, 2009**).

Selected applicants will be invited to a JSMC Recruitment Meeting in Jena, Germany, on Dec 14-16, 2009. Awarding decisions will be made shortly thereafter, allowing for an immediate start of the PhD projects.