

The Faculty of Biology  
of the University of Würzburg  
at the Julius-von-Sachs-Institute for Biosciences  
is offering a position of a  
**University Professor (m/f/d)**  
**for Plant Metabolism (grade W3)**  
(Chair of Pharmaceutical Biology)  
to be filled 20 May 2028,  
as a civil servant for life.

Founded in 1402, the Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg (JMU) is now one of the fifteen largest research-intensive universities in Germany with a leading medical school and a full range of academic disciplines, and is a member of the German U15. True to its guiding principle of 'Science for Society', the University of Würzburg strives to gain new insights in research areas relevant to the future.

In line with the Faculty of Biology's strategic focus and the plans for the substantive and structural reorientation of plant science research at the Julius von Sachs Institute for Biosciences (JvSI), the W3 professorship is to be aligned with the overarching theme of 'Adaptation and evolution of plants in a changing environment'.

We are seeking an outstanding researcher with an international profile, whose research focuses on aspects of primary or secondary plant metabolism, incorporating causal-analytical approaches. The research work should be characterised by a close integration of bioanalytical, molecular biological, biochemical, plant science and bioinformatics approaches. Suitable research areas could include, for example, the evolutionary origins of the chemical diversity of plant natural products and their functional significance for biotic interactions (e.g. mutualism, pathogen attack, herbivory) or the adaptation of plants to changing environmental conditions (e.g. temperature, water, nutrient supply). Research activities that explore the potential of plant-derived natural products for medical or biotechnological applications are also encouraged. The successful candidate is expected to utilise and further develop the existing molecular biology and bioanalytical infrastructure, and makes use of the Faculty Metabolomics Core Unit assigned to the Chair and further develops it, in their role as Head of the Core Unit, with a clear scientific vision.

A willingness to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration, particularly within the plant sciences and the Biozentrum, is expected. Active involvement in one or more of the faculty's priority areas (insect research, infection biology, theoretical biology) and the university's priority area ('Global Environmental Challenges') is desirable. Applicants are expected to have experience in securing external funding, as well as an excellent publication record and international visibility and reputation.

In teaching, the future chairholder will be expected to cover the field of Pharmaceutical Biology. Teaching responsibilities include courses for the state examination degree programme in Pharmacy offered at the University of Würzburg, as well as the modularised degree programmes in Biology (B.Sc., M.Sc. and teacher training). Teaching in the subject of Pharmaceutical Biology within the Pharmacy degree programme must be delivered in German and in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Licensing of Pharmacists (AappO). Contribution to the further development of teaching and to academic self-governance is expected.

Qualification requirements are a relevant academic degree, pedagogical suitability, special aptitude for scientific work, which is generally demonstrated by a doctoral degree, as well as additional scientific achievements as described in more detail in Art. 57 para. 1 sentences 3 and 4 BayHIG. The additional scientific achievements should have been made in the field of causal-analytical research into plant metabolism.

According to Art. 60 para. 3 BayHIG, an appointment to a civil service position is only possible until the age of 52. Exceptions are possible in urgent cases. Beyond this age, a non-civil service employment on the basis of a private-law contract would be possible.

The University of Würzburg attaches great importance to the intensive supervision of students and doctoral candidates and expects its faculty members to also adhere to this commitment.

The University of Würzburg aims to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and therefore strongly encourages applications from suitably qualified female scientists. The University of Würzburg is also a family-friendly university and promotes the compatibility of science and family. The professorship is to be filled on a full-time basis.

Severely disabled applicants with essentially the same qualifications will be given preferential consideration.

Applications, accompanied by the usual supporting documents (please refer to the information on the website <https://go.uniwiue.de/w3-PharmBio>).

Must be submitted by **November 9<sup>th</sup> 2026**

in electronic form to [bz-w3\\_pharmbio@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:bz-w3_pharmbio@uni-wuerzburg.de), addressed to the

**Dean of the Faculty of Biology**  
**Biozentrum, Am Hubland, 97074 Würzburg**