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International PhD Program

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Heidelberg, 19. Januar 2007

DKFZ – International PhD Program 2007

Dear Colleagues

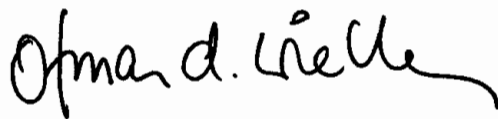
The DKFZ provides attractive opportunities for students at the graduate level to perform PhD thesis work in a multidisciplinary environment for cancer research. Thesis work will be embedded in our comprehensive international PhD Program.

Enclosed please find a poster announcing this program for 2007.

We would appreciate if it could be posted in your institution.

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely yours



Prof. Dr. Otmar D. Wiestler
Chairman and Scientific Member
of the Management Board



Prof. Dr. Thomas Efferth
PhD Program Coordinator

Stiftung des öffentlichen Rechts

Stiftungsvorstand

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International PhD Program

36 fellowships are available for applicants

Deadlines for applications: January 15th,

June 1st, September 15th each year

Application forms and information:

www.dkfz.de/phd

German Cancer Research Center
International PhD Program

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**Cell Biology and
Tumor Biology**



**Functional and Structural
Genome Research**



**Cancer Risk Factors
and Prevention**



Tumor Immunology



**Innovative Cancer
Diagnostics and Therapy**



Infection and Cancer



**Translational
Cancer Research**

The German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) is internationally recognized for its excellence in research. It represents an outstanding environment for doctorate thesis research. DKFZ offers a biomedical PhD Program for exceptional graduate students from around the world. This PhD Program provides splendid interdisciplinary training and research opportunities in basic, translational and clinical cancer research. Most PhD students at DKFZ graduate in Biology, Physics, Computer Science, Pharmacy, Chemistry, or Medicine.

DKFZ maintains seven major fields of research, e.g., cell biology and tumor biology, structural and functional genomics, cancer risk factors and prevention, tumor immunology, innovative cancer diagnostics and therapy, infection and cancer, and translational cancer research. A broad spectrum of laboratories at DKFZ is incorporated into the design of our innovative doctorate program. This facilitates doctorate students to learn cutting edge science and to interact with internationally leading scientists. In addition, every student in our PhD Program will acquire basic knowledge about major aspects of cancer research.

● Contact

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International
PhD Program

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GERMAN
CANCER RESEARCH CENTER
IN THE HEIMHOUTZ ASSOCIATION



Research at the DKFZ

As an internationally leading center for cancer research, DKFZ systematically investigates the mechanisms of cancer development as well as risk factors for cancer. The research results are exploited for new strategies to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer. DKFZ is a member of the Helmholtz Association of National Research Centers, a network of major German research centers. International and national collaborations play a prominent role at DKFZ (900 collaborations with scientists from 45 countries). DKFZ supports several clinical collaboration units located in cooperating hospitals. In 2004, DKFZ and the University of Heidelberg Medical Center have established the National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT), the first comprehensive cancer center in Germany. It provides a platform for translating research results into clinical applications.

Many DKFZ scientists are professors and lecturers at the University of Heidelberg, one of the world's top-ranking locations of international science and scholarship particularly in biomedical sciences. As Germany's oldest University it can look back on a 600-year tradition.

Together with its strong partners, DKFZ plays an active role in shaping the future in cancer research, both by engaging in innovative research and by educating the decision makers of tomorrow.

● Selection of candidates

An elaborated selection procedure aims to identify exceptional students with a deep commitment to their graduate education. A Pre-selection Committee evaluates applicants according to their submitted application documents. Short-listed candidates are invited to Heidelberg to present their projects from Master or Diploma thesis research. A Selection Committee explores the candidates' abilities and motivation in face-to-face interviews.

Currently, 36 fellowships are granted each year. Application deadlines are in January, June, and September. Detailed information and downloadable application documents can be found on our website (<http://www.dkfz.de/phd>).

● Thesis supervision

All doctorate students are supported by a Thesis Advisory Committee. This Committee has an active role in mentoring and supervising the students to promote a high level of achievements. This Committee consists of the group leader and two other scientists. Doctorate students write progress reports after the first and second year, which are discussed with the committee. Students with a need for further support receive additional tutoring.

● Course Work

The curriculum assumes an innovative format, which combines doctoral research with a research-oriented teaching program. It is our major goal to train self-reliant students to assimilate the knowledge required for a career in cancer research. Throughout their thesis, students attend lectures, method courses on scientific subjects, communication skills and language courses, poster presentations, journal clubs, group meetings, institute seminars and conventions. The participation is acknowledged by a credit point system. The successful completion is certified after completion of the doctorate thesis.

The typical duration of a PhD thesis at the DKFZ is 3 years.

● The aims of the program are:

- the promotion of scientific excellence of students
- a broad education in the entire field of basic, translational and clinical cancer research
- communicating to students, how different research fields influence one another
- developing interdisciplinary skills
- developing a sense for responsibility and ethical issues and to communicate to science and society

