Universität zu Köln

CECAD COLOGNE Excellent in Aging Research – Exzellent in Altersforschung

Cologne – A Vibrant Metropolis

Cologne, founded by the Romans and situated in the heart of Europe, is one of Germany's largest cities. Due to its friendly and international atmosphere, life in Cologne is uncomplicated and vivacious with a vibrant cultural scene. Besides its historic heritage, a vast range of museums and restaurants, international events and the famous carnival season are striking features.

The internationally focused University of Cologne was founded in the year 1388 and is one of the oldest and biggest universities in Germany. About 13% of the 44,000 plus students at the University have an international background. Its attractiveness is based on a wide range of educational and research opportunities. Located in one of Europe's leading economic and research centers, the University benefits greatly from an active exchange with surrounding institutions and the regional industry.



Application

Highly qualified and motivated students holding a M.Sc. degree or equivalent can apply for one of the CECAD Graduate School fellowships, starting from October each year. Application form and deadlines can be found at:

www.cecad.uni-koeln.de

Join the CECAD Graduate School!



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Gestaltung: rkk-design.de

Research

The "Cologne Cluster of Excellence on Cellular Stress Responses in Aging-Associated Diseases" (CECAD), funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) within the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal and State Governments, is the unifying driving force bringing together researchers and clinicians of the University and the University Hospital of Cologne.
The mission of CECAD Cologne is to unravel the molecular mechanisms underlying lifespan regulation and aging-associated diseases (e.g. aging-associated impairment of pathogen defence, cancer, diabetes and neurodegenerative diseases). Due to a generally increased life-expectancy and a hereby increased occurrence of aging-associated diseases, this area is of great scientific and social relevance. CECAD's long-term objective is to develop novel therapeutic interventions.

CECAD Cologne focuses on four core research areas:

- Cellular stress signaling and dysfunction during aging
- Senescence of membranes and age-related impairment of pathogen defence
- Inflammation in aging-associated diseases
- Metabolic pathways in aging-associated diseases





The Doctoral Program

The CECAD Graduate School offers a comprehensive PhD training in the highly interdisciplinary field of aging. The three-year program provides excellent research conditions with intensive supervision and state-of-the-art facilities in an international environment. The PhD curriculum is complemented by seminars and courses in aging related subjects as well as practice-oriented general skills.

Program Outline

The CECAD PhD program starts with an introduction to the CECAD research area, including a short rotation period in three groups of choice to select the appropriate laboratory for a subsequent PhD research project.

Every student is guided by a thesis committee consisting of experienced CECAD researchers. Annual reports guarantee optimal supervision of the progress of individual research projects.

Further key elements of the program are:

- Scientific methods courses
- Seminar series presenting international speakers
- Participation at scientific conferences and summer schools
- Retreats to intensify interaction with different CECAD researchers
- Special courses in presentation skills, scientific and grant writing, networking and other skills required for a successful scientific career
- Access to central facilities in genomics, proteomics, lipidomics and imaging

Key Features

- Three-year PhD fellowship, no tuition fees
- Excellent research conditions in the unique field of aging-associated diseases
- Interdisciplinary and international research environment
- Comprehensive and structured PhD program, taught entirely in English
- Extensive support for international students





