Call for applications for LMUmentoring at the Faculty of Biology

What it is
We invite applications from early career researchers for the LMUmentoring program at the Faculty of Biology. In this program the Faculty of Biology aims to support highly promising junior scientists in developing their academic career and building a personal support network. At the core of the mentoring program is the formation of a formal relationship between a mentor - a senior scientist, but not the direct project supervisor - and a mentee, an early career researcher during the postdoctoral phase (in exceptional cases at the end of the PhD phase). The mentor provides career advice to the mentee and the program supports this by direct financial support to the individual mentees and by the organization of workshops and events for all mentees.

What it takes
The mentee finds a suitable senior scientist (within or outside the Faculty of Biology, within or outside the LMU, but not the direct project supervisor) that is willing to be his/her mentor. This mentor/mentee pair is expected to commit to regular meetings/discussions (min. once per semester) and formulate goals for the junior scientist. Besides these informal contacts, the mentor, mentee and the direct project supervisor are expected to hold a formal “mentee advisory meeting” (MAC) at the beginning and end of the program. This MAC is in form and content meant to be similar to a thesis advisory meeting (TAC). Where applicable, this can also be merged with a habilitation committee meeting. Furthermore, the mentee has to provide a short written report at the end of the program.

What you get
Successful candidates will receive financial support (40k€/year is available for the whole program), which will be available essentially at the disposal of the individual mentee for MACs, personal contacts with the mentor, independent academic work, travel to conferences/workshops and student assistants. In addition, mentees of the program at the Faculty of Biology also meet as group for workshops (paper writing, grant writing, job search) and informal gatherings organized with input from the group of mentees. The maximal duration of the program will be 2 years of support and one additional year of affiliation.

How to apply
To apply, please return the attached application form, CVs of mentor and mentee, and consent from the mentor and direct project supervisor (email is sufficient) via email to dekanat@biologie.uni-muenchen.de until the 22.10.2017. The program coordinators will rank the applications based on scientific excellence, quality and expected benefit of the envisioned mentorship. At least 50% of the mentees will be female. The program will eventually enroll approximately 15 mentee/mentor pairs. Further rounds of applications, approximately once per semester, will follow to allow a constant turnover of mentee/mentor pairs.

In case of questions, please contact the program coordinators Prof. Wolfgang Enard (enard@biologie.uni-muenchen.de) or Prof. Laura Busse (busse@bio.lmu.de).