Annexure II

CSIR – DAAD Exchange of Scientists Programme

Nomination of German Scientist for Visiting India

{To be filled by CSIR applicant separately and uploaded on the CSIR website / portal while uploading necessary documents)

Latest photo of Nominee (Please Copy in the box and take color print of the nomination form

Exchange visit in project mode: **Yes** **No**

1.	Name of Nominee: Ulf Kahlert	
2.	Position Held: Professor	
3.	Clinic for Surgery, Medical Faculty, Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg, Leipziger Str. 44, 39120 Magdeburg, Germany.	
1.	Contact details Tel: 0049(0)3916715528 email : ulf.kahlert@med.ovgu.de	
4.	Nationality: German	
5.	Date of Birth & age	25.10.1981, 42 years
6.	Qualification	biology diploma 2008 PhD 2012 (Freiburg university) PostDoc 2012-2015 (Johns Hopkins Hospital Baltimore, USA) habilitation 2020 (University of Duesseldorf) professorship 2021 (University Magdeburg)
7.	Current area of research	Cancer biology, Organoid based characterization of cancer, robotic surgery in cancer, nanodelivery in cancer

8.	Topic of proposed joint research	Functional interrogation of high-risk gene signatures in HCC resistance to pharmacological immune therapy using primary patient-derived, animal free disease model
9.	Plan of research activity during research stay at CSIRinstitute	Implementation of organoid technology in Indian lab, genetic model development using CRISPR

10.	Expected outcome and benefit to CSIR	Transfer of cell biology knowledge, setup of PDO immune cell co-culture in vitro drug screening platform that can be used for other cancer types as well to identify new immune oncology drugs
11.	Reason for choice	Dr. Ulf Kahlert is an expert in analyze patient data and generating high risk gene signatures that predict cancer prognosis and response to immunotherapies (Zhang et al, 2024, Hu et al 2023 among others). Dr. Kahlert's group also has excellent expertise in the generation and maintenance of biobank of patient tumor and matched normal tissues and developing patient derived organoids from them. As an oncological colon cancer center and oncological pancreas cancer center as certified by the German Cancer Society, with approximately 2 tumor operations per day, they efficiently collect, preserve, characterize and process patient specimens. Our research program involves analyzing HCC patient data to identify high risk genes in HCC and testing their role in PDOs to identify new therapeutic targets in HCC. Dr. Kahlert's expertise in PDO and clinical informatics makes them the ideal host for this program.
12.	Accomplishments of the Nominee: Dr. Kahlert has attracted a total of over 2.2 M EUR research funding. And published over 95 peer reviewed scientific papers.	
	a) Publications in peer reviewed Journals Integrating a microRNA Signature as a Liquid Biopsy-Based Tool for early diagnosis and Potential Therapeutic Targets Prediction in Pancreatic Cancer W Shi, T Wartmann, S Accuffi, S Al-Madhi, A Perrakis, C Kahlert, A Link, M Venerito, V Keitel-Anselmino, C Bruns, RS Croner, Y Zhao, **UD Kahlert** *Br J Cancer. 2024 Jan;130(1):125-134,* ***IF 9*** The development of a hiPSC-based platform to identify tissue-dependencies of IDH1 R132H NZ Mehjardi, J Kessler, A Sanin, D Picard, P Westhoff, Ann-Christin Nickel, C Uhlmann, W Shi, HJ Steiger, M Remke, I Fischer, D Vordermark, RS Croner and **UD Kahlert** *Cell Death Discov, 2023 Dec 12;9(1):452* ***IF 7.5*** Glycometabolic reprogramming-induced XRCC1 lactylation confers therapeutic resistance in ALDH1A3-overexpressing glioblastoma. Li G, Wang D, Zhai Y, Pan C, Zhang J, Wang C, Huang R, Yu M, Li Y, Liu X, Liu Y, Wu F, Zhao Z, Hu H, Shi Z, **Kahlert UD**, Jiang T, Zhang W. *Cell Metab. 2024 Aug 6;36(8):1696-1710.e10,* ***IF 29*** Progenitor cells derived from gene-engineered human induced pluripotent stem cells as synthetic cancer cell alternatives for in vitro pharmacology.	

	Uhlmann C, Nickel AC, Picard D, Rossi A, Li G, Hildebrandt B, Brockerhoff G, Bendt F, Hübenthal U, Hewera M, Steiger HJ, Wieczorek D, Perrakis A, Zhang W, Remke M, Koch K, Tigges J, Croner RS, Fritsche E, **Kahlert UD.** *Biotechnol J. 2022 Jun;17(6):e2100693. , **IF4.8*** Longitudinal stability of molecular alterations and drug response profiles in tumor spheroid cell lines enables reproducible analyses. Nickel AC, Picard D, Qin N, Wolter M, Kaulich K, Hewera M, Pauck D, Marquardt V, Torga G, Muhammad S, Zhang W, Schnell O, Steiger HJ, Hänggi D, Fritsche E, Her NG, Nam DH, Carro MS, Remke M, Reifenberger G, **Kahlert UD.** *Biomed Pharmacother. 2021 Dec;144:112278 **IF 6.6***	
	b) Patents - granted / commercialized N/A.	
	c) Awards and honours 2014 Outstanding abstract in "Translational Science" Johns Hopkins Young Investigator Day in Pathology, Baltimore, MD, USA 03/2013 Dr. Mildred-Scheel Postdoctoral Fellowship by the German Cancer Aid	
	d) Any other	
13.	Consent of Nominee to visit CSIR (Pl. tick the relevant option and enclose a copyof the correspondence)	x **Yes** No
14.	Specific recommendations of the Director and statement confirming the provisionof workplace/research facilities at the Institute to the visiting German candidate. As Director of CSIR-IGIB, I am delighted to recommend Dr. Ulf Kahlert and Dr. Shruthy Suresh Aggarwal's application in the CSIR-DAAD exchange program. I had the pleasure of interacting with Dr. Ulf Kahlert during the Indo-German Delegates meeting in May 2024. We are very excited at the prospect of collaborating with Dr. Ulf and MES, Germany on various projects. We anticipate that this joint venture will greatly benefit both CSIR-IGIB and MES, Germany, together in our quest to address the unsolved problems in cancer biology. This DAAD-CSIR Exchange program is a great starting point towards a long-term collaboration between CSIR-IGIB and MES, Magdeburg, Germany. I confirm that there are research facilities, space and infrastructure to host Dr. Ulf Kahlert from MES, Germany at CSIR-IGIB for a short duration through the CSIR-DAAD exchange program. A letter stating the same is attached with this application.	

Signature of the Inviting Scientist

निदेशक / Director
सीएसआईआर–जीनोमिकी और समवत जीवविज्ञान संस्थान
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Signature and Seal of the Director