

FEBS NewsLetter

March 2004 (2/2004)

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FEBS — FOR YOUR INFORMATION

By Camilla Krogh Lauritzen,
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As you might recall, FEBS in January (ref. FEBS NewsLetter no. 1/2004) asked for your view on the challenges that European Scientists are facing in the years to come. The question was: What keeps **you** awake at night, and which role do you see FEBS playing in facing these challenges?

We received a lot of brilliant answers from all corners of the FEBS Community. In this — and the next 4 — issues of FEBS NewsLetter, we will present you to a selection of these. The two ones in line is Mihai Nita-Lazar, member of the Romanian Biochemical Society, and Vesna Vucic, Member of the Yugoslav Biochemical Society (p.4-5).

In this issue, you will also be able to learn about the development related to the possible ERC; a development that FEBS is deeply engaged in and supportive of. On p. 2 the Secretary General informs about the recent progress on this topic.

If you are into lipids or wish to learn more about AFM applications, then take a look at p.6; FEBS is sponsoring two Meetings focusing on exactly this in Greece and Portugal, respectively. Should you be interested in attending either, this is your opportunity.

Talking about opportunities; each month we receive an increasing number of vacancy announcements (post doc's, fellowships etc.) for the Opportunity section of this newsletter. We are happy to see that so many FEBS members make use of — and benefit from — this free service. In order to comply with the interest shown, we also offer you the opportunity to post announcement yourself, directly, within the FEBS Bulletin Board (<http://www.febs.org/FebsBB/>). Here, we have established a forum, called "Notice Board". If you have an offer at hand, or are looking for one, feel welcome to use this easy and immediate way to present your announcement.

Finally, there is also news to be read from the two FEBS journals — both of which are looking forward to serve cocktails for a you in Warsaw! - see p. 7.

Kind regards

Camilla

About the FEBS NewsLetter:

FEBS NewsLetter is published every second Monday in every second month (starting in January), and e-mail directly to approx. 14.000 FEBS members.

Free e-subscription is offered; subscribers will receive the newsletter as a PDF file whenever a new issue is published. To subscribe, simply send an e-mail to newsletter@febs.org or subscribe on-line at http://www.febs.org/e-mail_registration.asp.

Do you wish to announce a job, a post doc, an event etc.? Advertise this in FEBS NewsLetter for free! We welcome all types of material that applies to the stated objectives of the Federation.

Any comments or suggestions to the FEBS NewsLetter or FEBS' website? Feel free to send an e-mail to newsletter@febs.org.

The deadline for all types of entries to the next issue of the FEBS NewsLetter is **April 30, 2004**.



THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL: THE 'MAYOR GROUP' REPORT AND THE COMMISSION'S VIEWS ON BASIC RESEARCH AND ITS IMPACT

By Prof. J.E. Celis, Secretary General of FEBS
 Institute of Cancer Biology and Danish Centre for Translational Breast Cancer Research (DCTB)
 Danish Cancer Society, Strandboulevarden 49, DK-2100 Copenhagen O, Denmark
 E-mail: jec@cancer.dk

European science is experiencing one of its most exciting times in recent years with the beginning of the new millennium being marked by a renewed interest in basic, fundamental research as a means to sustain a knowledge-based society.

Currently, there are great expectations for the possible creation of a European Research Council (ERC) for all sciences, a new funding instrument for supporting high-quality fundamental research that may become a cornerstone of a new knowledge-based society. The European scientific community has discussed the initiative at various occasions during the past year and has eagerly awaited the report of the ERC expert group (ERCEG), appointed during the Danish presidency of the EU in 2002, as well as the communiqué from the European Commission on basic research. These communications can be found at <http://www.ercexpertgroup.org/> and <http://europa.eu.int/comn/research/whatsnew.cfm>, respectively.

The report of the ERCEG, now known as the 'Mayor Group', proposed the establishment of a European Fund for Research Excellence and an ERC to manage it. Furthermore, the report suggested that the sum of 2 billion euro per year would be necessary to make an impact on basic research. This money should come directly from the EU as a specified item in the budget for the next Framework Programme (FP), rather than from other existing national and European programmes. Most importantly, the report emphasised the need to safeguard the autonomy of the ERC, as well as to fully involve the scientific community both in the peer review system and in defining the delivery mechanisms.

The Commission paper also recognised the need for supporting basic research in Europe and proposed to introduce the new funding mechanism along the lines delineated by the Mayor Group in the budget of FP7. The communiqué also underlined the need for infrastructures, for increased support to develop human resources, and for increased collaboration and networking. To achieve these goals, the Commission

plans to initiate debates with the scientific community, as well as within the Council and the European Parliament in early 2004. Thereafter, there will be a second communiqué with the view of putting forward a proposal for FP7.

Considering the above described developments, one would expect the scientific community to be thrilled about the prospect of having additional funding made available, allowing it to compete for and to deliver on the political expectations of making Europe a highly competitive knowledge-based society.

Unfortunately, however, this is not the case as many leading European scientists feel that they will be plunged into complex and heavy bureaucratic machinery if the new funds are implemented through the Commission programmes. According to the Mayor Group, the new Fund should support "investigator-driven research of the highest quality selected through European competition", which may not be possible according to the present rules. Writing a successful application for FP6 requires a lot more than just good science, and as a result many scientists have decided not to apply to the new EC instruments.

It is still possible, however, that through the forthcoming consultations with the scientific community the Commission may take a more radical look at the way it runs the FPs, and will implement mechanisms that will ensure that funds are granted solely based on scientific excellence. This may not be simple, but even if so, I still think that many scientists would prefer to have the ERC at arm's length from the Commission. To administrate the ERC is one thing; to manage the science involved is another.

Julio E. Celis,
 Secretary General of FEBS

(Excerpt from FEBS Letters, Volume 561, Issue 1-3, pp. 1-2)



CHALLENGES FOR EUROPEAN SCIENCE

(I/II)

**By Mihai Nita-Lazar, Member of the Romanian Biochemical Society
One of the winners of a free registration to the 2004 FEBS Congress in Warsaw**

There are many challenges and demands that European scientists will have to face in the nearest future. In my opinion, two of the issues require special attention.

The first challenge, most important for me personally, as a scientist coming from Eastern Europe, is a big change after the countries of the former East Block join the European Union. This event will change a lot in the balance of the EU. The Eastern European countries educate each year a significant number of scientists with excellent knowledge and intellectual abilities and therefore have enormous human potential in science. When those people join the pool of scientists able to compete on equal rights with the EU scientists for the permanent academic positions, the job market will certainly change.

Many people like me, current post docs for whom the next career step would be looking for independent position, are very concerned because of this fact. It may be necessary to increase the budget and availability of fellowships, maybe by collaborations with pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies which would be willing to invest into basic research.

On the other hand, the new international scientific centres and institutes should be built there and the new job opportunities created. It is to the great credit of FEBS that the Society organizes conferences and courses which allow the

people to exchange information, not only about their research progress, but also about opportunities to do research in, sometimes very different, European countries.

The additional problem is the objective evaluation system in the appointments to the higher academic positions. Surely, the normalization of the criteria in the whole EU will change the system also in Eastern European countries, in which the scientific world, like other fields, is still very prone to corruption and frozen in the old structures.

The second important issue is the growing interest of the non-scientific world in the ethical aspects of innovations and discoveries. Recently, in vitro fertilization, cloning of animals and humans, and genetically modified food are the first-page topics in the newspapers. The newspaper articles, however, are often misleading and politically manipulative. Because of increasing awareness, the need for reliable, genuine information increases too. Already some institutes organize "open days" and special public lectures, but organizing special courses for the non-scientists (explanations of biotechnology procedures, goals and significance) as well as for the scientists (bioethics, science popularisation) could be useful in making the communication between science and public easier.

There are certainly many more challenges, but the above two seem to be the most prominent ones in the nearest future.



CHALLENGES FOR EUROPEAN SCIENCE

(II/II)

**By Vesna Vucic, Member of the Yugoslav Biochemical Society
One of the winners of a free registration to the 2004 FEBS Congress in Warsaw**

In my opinion, the European science grows up very fast, but there are still a lot of things that have to be explained. While the European science develops very fast, the Serbian science develops slower. Constant financial problems in our country make our experimental work very hard. The equipment is very old, and we often cannot buy commercial kits, which give faster and more precise results. The good thing is Internet – now we can read new articles and contact colleagues from other countries, which are usually very helpful in advices and sometimes in chemicals. During my Master and PhD studies I've had a lot of problems in my experiments, but I think that most of

problems can be solved by contacts with colleagues who have much experience. Especially great meetings like FEBS can be important for scientist worldwide, maybe even more for young scientists. We can meet each other, discuss about our scientific problems, exchange literature and experience, and also we can make some contacts for specialized courses, help in practical education or even getting older equipment from better laboratories. But I don't expect all of these, I expect to be with people who love the same things I love – biochemistry.
And maybe some useful advise about my work.

THE MESSAGE BOARD



€21,000 TO BE WON! - THE "YOUNG CELL SIGNALLER 2004 AWARD"

You are invited to take part in the inaugural **Upstate 'Young Cell Signaller 2004' Award**. This is a new initiative to recognise and reward outstanding research within the cell signalling area.

The award will support the research of the successful young scientist by providing £10,000/€14,000 worth of support funding for reagents for the laboratory, plus a personal cash prize of £5,000/€7,000 and a trophy.

Eligible scientists include all Ph.D. students and first time post-docs.

Anyone wishing to be considered for the Award should submit an abstract before 31st March 2004.

Visit www.upstate.com/youngscientist for further details.

If you have any queries regarding the award, please email youngscientist@upstate.com or call +44 (0) 1908 552839.

WINNERS OF A FREE REGISTRATION FOR THIS YEAR'S FEBS CONGRESS IN WARSAW — SEE THE NAMES AT FEBS BULLETIN BOARD, [HTTP://WWW.FEBS.ORG/FEBSBB/](http://www.febs.org/febsbb/)

Do you have an announcement for the Message Board?
- send it to newsletter@febs.org, and have it posted here for free!
(please write 'Message Board' in the subject title)



EMBO/FEBS WORKSHOP ON AFM APPLICATIONS IN BIOLOGY
 OEIRAS, PORTUGAL, JULY 7 - 9, 2004

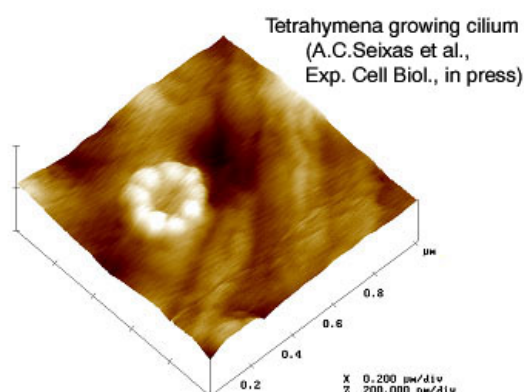
The purpose of this workshop is to create a platform for the dissemination and exchange of new results and ideas in the field of Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) applications in biological sciences. AFM is a powerful technique with a wide range of applications in biology, allowing not only for imaging but also for different types of probing and manipulation at nanometric scale. New outstanding applications are reported almost everyday. AFM systems are also becoming widely available. It is therefore timely to bring together scientists engaged in different aspects of AFM applications in biology to present the latest advances and promote cross-fertilisation in the field so that the potential of this technique can be fully explored.

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission Deadline: March 31, 2004
- (if applying for YTF Fellowship): March 24, 2004
- Workshop Registration Deadline: April 30, 2004
- Workshop dates: 7-9 July, 2004

Location: Lisbon, Portugal

Further information: <http://www.workshop.bioafm.net>



FEBS SPECIAL MEETING, 45TH ICBL (COURSE CODE 04-09M)
 IOANNINA, GREECE, MAY 25 - 29, 2004

This Meeting is intended to serve as a knowledge transfer forum for scientists in the various fields of the "bioscience of lipids", including biochemistry, biophysics, molecular biology and cellular biology. We have selected topics of current interest and our integrative approach is to create the possibility of an extended discussion both inside and outside the meeting room. An internationally recognized panel of invited speakers and the contribution of free communications will create an excellent opportunity to present the state-of-the-art research and to reach shared conclusions.

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission Deadline: March 1, 2004
- Early registration: March 1, 2004
- Housing Reservation deadline: March 31, 2004

Location: Ioannina, Greece

Further information: <http://medlab.cs.uoi.gr/icbl/welcome.htm>





FEBS Letters

March 2004



Dear Fellow Scientists,

Here at *FEBS Letters* we strive to quickly and efficiently publish the latest discoveries in the molecular biosciences, thereby making information available to the scientific community as rapidly

as possible. We kindly ask our authors to do the same by encouraging them to submit DNA and protein sequences to the GenBank and SWISS-PROT databases. The vast amount of data produced daily in the post-genomic era makes it more vital than ever to quickly and accurately organize information in a reliable, easy-to-use format. One recent initiative, the Proteomics Standard Initiative (PSI), provides a forum for the public distribution of protein interaction data.

To promote this new initiative, the editors of *FEBS Letters* have decided to ask the authors of accepted manuscripts to deposit their protein interaction data in the MINT (**M**olecular **I**NTeractions) database. Visit the MINT Website at: <http://mint.bio.uniroma2.it/mint/> or go to www.febsletters.com, "Notes to Authors" for more information.

This spring, look for the newest *FEBS Letters'* Special Issue entitled "Membrane Protein Structure and Function". This special issue is based on the 2nd International Conference on "Structure, Dy-

namics and Function of Proteins in Biological Membranes", held last October in Ascona, Switzerland. The issue, which was organized and edited by Andreas Engel and Fritz Winkler, features contributions (minireviews and research letters) on the latest developments in membrane protein research.

Don't forget to visit our newly designed Website - www.febsletters.com - with free access to all mini-reviews and special issues, including the recent Nobel Symposium Special Issue and the soon-to-be-published "Membrane Protein Structure and Function" Special Issue. We look forward to seeing you at the FEBS Congress in Warsaw for the FEBS Young Scientist Cocktail on Monday, June 28th!

With kind regards,

The *FEBS Letters* Editorial Office
Felix Wieland, Managing Editor
Kara Bortone, Assistant Managing Editor
Eva-Maria Emig, Assistant Editor
Anne Mueller, Editorial Assistant

Your cells are Texas Red
Your finger tips are Coomassie Blue
See FEBS mix colored Cocktails
For people like you!

See you in Warsaw...



March 2004

Dear Fellow Scientists

Changes to the Editorial Board

We thank Dr N. Hirokawa (Tokyo), who is leaving the Editorial Board, having been a distinguished member for the past 5 years.

We are pleased to welcome a new member of the Editorial Board, Dr Hans Clevers, well known for his work in molecular immunology and molecular oncology and in particular in the area of Wnt signalling and the origins

of colon cancer. Dr Clevers is Director of the Hubrecht Laboratory, Netherlands Institute for Developmental Biology of the Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Utrecht and a Professor of Molecular Genetics in the University of Utrecht.

New members of the Editorial Advisory Board

We thank the following retiring members of the Editorial Advisory Board for their valuable service: Richard L.C. Brimacombe (Berlin), Bernd Bukau (Freiburg), Viktor Dombradi (Debrecen), R. Colin Hughes (London), Fritz G. Rathjen (Berlin), János Rétey (Karlsruhe), and Heinz Rüterjans (Frankfurt). New members of the Editorial Advisory Board from 1 January 2004 are: Rolf Boelens (Utrecht), Neil D. Perkins (Dundee), Peter Rich (London), Paul Shore (Manchester), Lars Tjernberg (Huddinge), and Alfonso Valencia (Madrid).

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The FEBS Journal Prize

You are reminded again of the FEBS Journal prize, to be awarded to a graduate student or young post-doctoral research worker who is the first author of a paper judged to be the best in EJB during the year 2004. The prize is worth 10,000 euros, and the winner will be chosen by the Editorial Board of the journal.

The communicating authors of papers being submitted to the journal should indicate if the first author qualifies for the prize; the communicating authors of papers submitted earlier to the journal which will appear in the hard copy of EJB with a 2004 dateline have been contacted by the Editorial Office to enquire whether the first author qualifies as a candidate for the prize.

Further details can be found on the journal website (<http://www.ejb.org>). There is no need for you to take any further action unless you believe you have been overlooked, in which case please send a message to ejb@camfebs.co.uk explaining the situation.

Reviews

Since the last FEBS newsletter, the following review articles have been published in the journal:

Glutamate signaling in peripheral tissues, by E. Hinoi, T. Takarada, T. Ueshima, Y. Tsuchihashi and Y. Yoneda (Vol. 271/1).

A minireview series on beta-oxidation of fatty acids (in part honouring Professor Helmut Beinert) coordinated by Professor Sandro Ghisla is published in EJB Vol. 271/3:

Introduction by Professor Ghisla: Beta-oxidation of fatty acids. A century of discovery.

Mitochondrial beta-oxidation, by K. Bartlett and S. J. Eaton.

Genetic defects in fatty acid oxidation and acyl-CoA dehydrogenases. Molecular pathogenesis and genotype-phenotype relationships, by N. Gregersen, P. Bross and B. S. Andresen.

Acyl-CoA dehydrogenases and acyl-CoA oxidases. Structural basis for mechanistic similarities and differences, by J.-J. P. Kim and R. Miura

Acyl-CoA dehydrogenases. A mechanistic overview, by S. Ghisla and C. Thorpe.

Expressed protein ligation: Method and applications, by R. David, M.P.O. Richter and A.G. Beck-Sickinger (Vol. 271/4).

Genetic approaches to the cellular functions of polyamines in mammals, by J. Jänne, L. Alhonen, M. Pietilä

and A. Keinänen (Vol. 271/5).

The following review will be published in a forthcoming issue of EJB:

Collectins: players of the innate immune system, by J. Koen van de Wetering, L.M.G. van Golde and J. J. Batenburg.

You can read reviews online and download them free of charge from the time of publication. All reviews published in EJB in recent years have now been collated and can be accessed free of charge on the EJB online websites: the Blackwell Publishing service Synergy (<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/>) and the Highwire platform (<http://www.ejbiochem.org> and <http://highwire.stanford.edu/>). These sites are easily reached by hotlinks from the EJB website (<http://www.ejb.org>).

FEBS Congress in Warsaw

The 29th FEBS Congress will be held in Warsaw, Poland from 26 June to 1 July 2004. There will be the customary reception for younger scientists hosted by the FEBS journals, EJB and FEBS Letters, on Monday 28 June. Details will be posted on the FEBS website (<http://www.febs2004.pl/>). The Editorial Manager and the Chairman of the Editorial Board, together with others closely associated with EJB, will be attending.

Change in the Editorial Office

The Chairman of the Editorial Board takes this opportunity to announce that our Editorial Manager for the past 3 years, Ms Louise Sanders, will be leaving the journal Editorial Office on 3 March to develop her career in new directions. Louise has been a dedicated member of the staff and worked exceptionally hard for the journal during her time in office and we wish her every happiness and success in the future. She will be succeeded by Dr Vanessa Wilkinson, currently the Deputy Editorial Manager, and a new deputy is in the process of being appointed.

With best regards,

Richard Perham, Chairman of the Editorial Board
Louise Sanders, Editorial Manager
Vanessa Wilkinson, Deputy Editorial Manager
Jane Bartolozzi, Editorial Secretary
Laraine Kerr, Editorial Secretary
Ilana Wooster, Editorial Secretary



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

GROUP LEADER

THE MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS (MPI-CBG), DRESDEN

The Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) and the Max Planck Society (MPG) announce the establishment of a Joint PAN-MPG Junior Research Group at the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (MPI-CBG) in Dresden, Germany, and invite applications for the position of a **Group Leader**.

Applicants should have a strong background in molecular cell and/or developmental biology, and have research interests complementing and further strengthening the current profile of the MPI-CBG in Dresden (www.mpi-cbg.de). Scientists from Poland or of Polish origin are especially encouraged to apply.

The group will be funded by PAN and will receive support for one postdoctoral fellow, one Ph.D. student, one technician, and adequate running costs. The MPG/MPI-CBG will provide a fully-equipped laboratory. The initial appointment is for 5 years, at the W2 scale.

Applications in English including curriculum vitae, list of publications, and research plan should be submitted by March 15 by e-mail to zylicz@iimcb.gov.pl. Three letters of recommendation should be sent separately by the application deadline to the same address. Short-listed applicants will be invited to Dresden for interview during April 13-16.



POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS FOR A GLYCOBIOLOGIST AND CARBOHYDRATE BIOCHEMIST/CHEMIST

IMPERIAL COLLEGE NORTHWICK PARK CAMPUS

- POSITIONS:** Advance notice of Postdoctoral Research Fellowships that will be available during the spring of 2004.
- LOCATION:** The Glycosciences Laboratory, Imperial College London, Faculty of Medicine, Northwick Park & St Mark's Campus, Watford Road, Harrow, UK.
- PROJECTS:** New approaches to elucidation of carbohydrate recognition systems in immunity (Immunological Reviews 173, 79-88, 2000; Nature Biotechnology 20, 1011-1017, 2002).
- ELIGIBILITY:** PhD with strong background in cell and protein research or carbohydrate biochemistry/chemistry.
- DURATION:** Two to four years.
- CONTACT:** Please send CV to include a brief summary of research interests and accomplishments together with the names and addresses of two referees to:

Professor Ten Feizi

Glycosciences Laboratory, Imperial College London, Northwick Park & St Mark's Campus, Watford Road, Harrow, HA1 3UJ, UK, E-mail: t.feizi@imperial.ac.uk



CONTINUED...

POSITIONS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY BREMEN

In Prof. Sebastian Springer's laboratory at the International University Bremen (IUB), two graduate student positions are available immediately.

Both positions are in a DFG-funded project investigating the regulation of the intracellular transport of major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I molecules, and the molecular mechanism of the mammalian antiviral immune response in general. We will establish and use an *in vitro* assay to study endoplasmic reticulum (ER) to Golgi trafficking of these molecules.

The project will use the following techniques:

- mammalian cell culture
- intracellular fractionation
- fluorescence confocal microscopy
- immunological techniques
- protein expression and purification
- molecular biology.

Experience in one or more of these areas is desirable.

In addition to the described topic, work on a new project investigating the action of a molecular chaperone on MHC class I molecules may also be possible.

For these positions, an MSc in a life sciences field with substantial laboratory experience or a German Diplom is required.

The positions are full-time research but lectures and courses from the Life Sciences undergraduate programs (<http://www.iu-bremen.de/ses/bccb/>) and, from fall 2004, the graduate program in Biological Recognition (**BioRec**) (<http://www.iu-bremen.de/ses/biorec/>) can be attended. Graduate students may also teach laboratory courses.

The International University Bremen (IUB) is a new private research and teaching university in Northern Germany. Our newly established life sciences laboratories have state-of-the-art equipment for research in biochemistry, cell biology, and biophysics.

Informal enquiries and written applications (including CV and a cover letter indicating your motivation to work in this field) should be directed to:

Prof. Sebastian Springer, School of Engineering and Science, International University Bremen, Campus Ring 1, D-28757 Bremen, Germany. E-mail: s.springer@iu-bremen.de

For further information, please see <http://www.iu-bremen.de>

UICC INTERNATIONAL CANCER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FELLOWSHIPS (ICRETT) 120 AWARDS PER YEAR @AVERAGE US\$ 3,000

The fellowships are funded by a group of cancer institutes, leagues, societies, associations, foundations, and governmental agencies in North America, Europe, and Australia. The aims of the awards are three-fold:

- to facilitate rapid international transfer of cancer research and clinical technology
- to exchange knowledge and enhance skills in basic, clinical, behavioural, and epidemiological areas of cancer research, and in cancer control and prevention,
- to acquire up-to-date clinical management, diagnostic and therapeutic expertise

For further information, please see <http://fellows.uicc.org/fell4icr.shtml>



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INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE (PHD) PROGRAM, "MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE OF THE LUNG"

JUSTUS-LIEBIG-UNIVERSITY, GIESSEN, GERMANY

Over a period of 3 years, interdisciplinary graduate students engage in research projects investigating the physiology and pathophysiology of the lung in the interface of basic sciences and clinical medicine. Particular emphasis of the entailed projects is put on the discovery and analysis of molecular mechanisms underlying diseases of the respiratory system potentially applicable to the development of new therapeutic strategies. The educational curriculum of this program offers a broad scheme of theoretical knowledge and transferable methodical skills in molecular biology.

Openings are available for 12 PhD student fellowships starting on October 1, 2004. Application materials, including a CV, 2 reference letters, and an informal letter (in English) indicating the applicant's particular qualification and motivation for Ph.D. studies, need to be submitted by email to the MBML program coordination office by April 1, 2004 (Christiane.Eickelberg@innere.med.uni-giessen.de). Further information can be obtained at our website <http://www.uniklinikum-giessen.de/mbml>, or directly from the academic coordinator.

3-YEAR POSITION AVAILABLE UNIVERSITY OF SEVILLE, SPAIN

A 3-year position is available at the Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department (University of Seville, Spain), to work on N-metabolism and photorespiration in the model legume *Lotus japonicus*. The work will make use of mutants already available from this plant as well as other mutants expected to be obtained by conventional or new TILLING methods. This work forms part of a EU-funded Marie Curie Research Training Network entitled "Intensifying training in Europe for genomic research activity on legumes (INTEGRAL)", which involves also interactions with 10 other partner labs within Europe.

Applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) Less of 4 years (full-time equivalent) of research activity since gaining a university degree giving access to doctoral studies, but not yet having obtained a doctoral degree.
- 2) Be a national of a member state of the community or an associated state, or having resided in the EU or associated states for at least 4 years out of the last five years prior to appointment. Applicants from third countries could be also considered within some limits.
- 3) Not being spanish neither having resided in Spain for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to his/her appointment.

Gross salary: 21,285.60 Euro per year plus additional 8,308.60 Euro as annual mobility allowance.

How to apply: please send curriculum vitae describing university qualifications and other previous research experience and two reference letters (or addresses), specifying the desired date for commencement. Send applications or requests for further information as soon as possible to the name and address below:

Dr. Antonio J. Márquez, Profesor Titular

Departamento de Bioquímica Vegetal y Biología Molecular, Facultad de Química,
Apartado 553, 41080-Sevilla, España, Tlf.: +34-95-455 71 45, Fax: +34-95-462 68 53,
E-mail: cabeza@us.es



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GROUP LEADER

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY, WARSAW

International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw is a Polish research institute active in the field of molecular biomedicine, with research groups focused on molecular biology of cancer, neurobiology/neurodegeneration, cell biology, molecular immunology, crystallography/structural biology, biomodelling/protein-ligand and protein-protein structure prediction, bioinformatics/molecular evolution and enzyme engineering. We are seeking a highly motivated Group Leader, who would complement existing research groups and bridge their interest and activities.

- We are looking for young scientists who are ready to start their independent careers and wish to concentrate on research in a scientifically stimulating environment
- The successful applicants will be able to build their groups by selecting PhD students from leading Polish universities
- We offer start-up funds, furnished laboratory and office space in a modern building, access to the Institute's equipment, and a salary for the Group Leader and her/his two PhD students for 5 years initially (with possibility of extension in a rolling-tenure mechanism)

Informal enquiries to **Agnieszka Ziemka** (SC@iimcb.gov.pl)

Apply on-line by the end of March 2004. For further details, please see www.iimcb.gov.pl. Additional info on IIMCB can also be found in Nature 2003, 421: 471-472.

POST DOC

UNIVERSITY OF LEUVEN

We are currently recruiting a postdoctoral fellow for a period of one to three years starting on 1st of April 2004.

Current area of research emphasis of the lab is the molecular biology of the androgen response, structure-function relationships in the androgen receptor and its interacting co-activators.

Applicants should have a Ph.D. degree with laboratory based experience in molecular cell biology, preferably in the field of transcription or nuclear receptor biology, and a valid Visa to work in Belgium. The project is funded by a grant from the Association for International Cancer Research and will focus on the structure-function relationship in the activation functions of the androgen receptor.

Applicants are invited to send their C.V. and accompanying letter to Frank Claessens at the Molecular Endocrinology Laboratory, Campus GHB O/N, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven, Belgium or e-mail to frank.claessens@med.kuleuven.ac.be

HUMAN FRONTIERZ SCIENCE PROGRAM — RESEARCH GRANTS

"The Human Frontier Science Program has announced the latest call for applications for research grants. HFSP supports international collaborative projects in the life sciences with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary collaborations involving scientists from biology with colleagues from other disciplines such as physics, chemistry, computer science, nanoscience, mathematics and engineering.

The next deadline for submitting letters of intent for the research grants is March 31st 2004.

Further information can be obtained at <http://www.hfsp.org>



FELLOWSHIP (1) UNIVERSITY OF MILAN

The Laboratory of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Lipids at the Department of Pharmacological Sciences of the University of Milan is offering 1 (one) grant to a young European Scientist who is pursuing doctoral studies in the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis and thrombosis.

The University of Milan has been recognized as one of the twelve Universities of excellence in Europe and in particular the Department of Pharmacological Sciences is internationally acknowledged for its studies on atherosclerosis, lipid metabolism and thrombosis.

Studies are focused on (a) analysis of the role of orphan nuclear receptors and other transcription factors, (b) on the regulation of cholesterol catabolism, identification of the signalling pathways modulating the activity of orphan nuclear receptors and other transcription factors involved in the regulation of cholesterol catabolism, (c) systematic analysis of target genes regulated by the above mentioned nuclear factors, and (d) role of chromatin structure and remodelling on the transcription of genes involved in cholesterol metabolism.

Please see <http://www.febs.org/News/Opportunities/Opportunities.htm> for further information.

Applications, including detailed curriculum vitae, should be sent to:

Dr. Maurizio Crestani

Department of Pharmacological Sciences, University of Milan
via Balzaretti, 9, 20133 Milano - Italy; Tel. +39-02-50318393/18391; Fax +39-02-50318391
E-mail: Maurizio.Crestani@unimi.it

FELLOWSHIP (2) UNIVERSITY OF MILAN

The Department of Pharmacological Sciences of the University of Milan is offering 1 grant to young European Scientists who are pursuing doctoral studies in the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis and thrombosis.

The Department of Pharmacological Sciences is internationally recognized for its studies on atherosclerosis, lipid metabolism and thrombosis.

Studies are focused on pathophysiology of the disease, including the contribution of genetic and environmental risk factors, and its dietary and pharmacological modulation.

Specific attention is given to molecular and biochemical mechanisms and to the development of experimental models of atherosclerotic disease.

A Lipid Clinic, within the Department, offers the possibility to participate to clinical studies in patients with risk factors for atherosclerosis disease.

Please see <http://www.febs.org/News/Opportunities/Opportunities.htm> for further information.

Applications, including a detailed curriculum vitae, should be sent to:

Professor Elena Tremoli

University of Milan Department of Pharmacological Sciences
Via Balzaretti, 920133 Milano Italy, Tel. +39-02-50318318 Fax +39-02-50318250
E-mail: Elena.Tremoli@unimi.it



What: EuroConference on Angiogenesis
When: May 21–24, 2004
Where: Helsinki, Finland

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.chem.umu.se/dep/biochem/umea2004/>

What: Emerging Pathways in Cytoskeletal Communication
When: June 5 - 9, 2004
Where: Umeå, Sweden

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.chem.umu.se/dep/biochem/umea2004/>

What: 3rd International and 28th European Peptides Symposium
When: September 5 -10, 2004
Where: Prague, Czech Republic

For detailed information please see:
www.kenes.com/28eps

What: 3rd Euro Fed Lipid Congress
When: September 5-8, 2004
Where: Edinburgh, Scotland

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.eurofedlipid.org/meetings/edinburgh>

What: PIVAC: Progress in Vaccination against Cancer
When: September 22–25, 2004
Where: Freudenstadt-Lauterbad, Black Forest, Germany

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.pivac4@web.de>

What: International Conference on Dietary Lipids as Risk Factor in Development
When: December 10-12, 2004
Where: Kraków, Poland

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.dlarfid.org/>

What: 30th FEBS Congress - 9th IUBMB Conference
When: July 2-7, 2005
Where: Budapest, Hungary

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.febs-iubmb-2005.com/>

What: EuroConference on Inter- and Intracellular Signalling, and Global Regulation in Bacteria
When: San Feliu de Guixols, Spain
Where: May 8-13, 2004

For detailed information please see:
<http://www.esf.org/euresco/04/lc04178>