

Research Technician within Tumor Lymph Node on Chip

Åbo Akademi University is an internationally acknowledged research university with an extensive responsibility for providing education in Swedish in Finland. With its international research community and its strong Nordic ties, Åbo Akademi University has an acclaimed and recognized position within research and education both nationally and internationally.

Åbo Akademi University, funded by the European Commission Horizon 2020 project Tumor Lymph Node on Chip for cancer studies (Tumor-LN-oC, <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/953234>), invites applications for a fixed-term research technician position in the field of cell and molecular biology for a period of three years starting June 7th 2021, the COVID-19 situation permitting. The position is full time. The work will be performed within the framework of the innovation ecosystem InFLAMES (<https://inflames.utu.fi/>). The InFLAMES Flagship aims at identifying drug targets, developing technological platforms and finding diagnostic tools to tackle diseases related to or controlled by the immune system.

Background

The position will be seated at the Sahlgren group, the Cell Fate Lab (<http://cellfatelab.github.io/>), Subject of Cell Biology, Faculty of Science and Engineering in Turku, Finland. The Tumor-LN-oC project is an international collaboration aiming at creating a novel model system to study metastasis of cancer cells from primary tumors into lymph nodes. At the Cell Fate Lab, the project aims include optimization of a co-culture system and characterization of metastasizing cells. Importantly, the research technician will support the everyday work of the Cell Fate Lab (altogether 15-20 researchers and students) in addition to taking part in implementation of the Tumor-LN-oC project.

Work tasks

- Preparation of buffers and reagent solutions, aliquoting of chemicals, casting of agar plates, production of plasmid preps and handling other similar support functions to enable researchers to concentrate on experimental work.
- Handling day-to-day material orders, from various local and international sources. Gatekeeping of duplicate purchases. Handling product arrivals, managing storage spaces and keeping inventory.
- Providing technical support to the lab members and taking part in trouble-shooting.
- Organization and coordination of lab cleaning schedules (cell culture facilities, general laboratory spaces, freezers and fridges, storage spaces) and guidance of the group members with shared lab management tasks.

Essential qualifications

- Polytechnic level degree for biomedical laboratory scientist, laboratory technician or equivalent or a BSc or MSc degree in the field of biosciences.
- Familiarity with MS office programs and the related environment.
- Experience with various wet lab techniques, e.g. cell culture. Ability to provide technical support, ideas and solutions when faced with a problem.

Desirable attributes

- Strong interpersonal and team work skills, including fluent written and oral communication in English and knowledge of Swedish. Foreigners and non-native Finnish citizens can be exempted from the requirement to have knowledge of Swedish.
- Approachable and flexible, understanding but firm, not afraid to ask questions and report problems.
- Organizational skills and attention to details.
- Time management skills. Ability to prioritize and take initiative.

Salary

The salary will be based on level 5-6 of the job demand level for other personnel, <https://www.sivista.fi/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Salary-Scales-010820-and-010621.pdf>. In addition, there is a salary component based on personal work performance, according to the general collective agreement for universities.

A trial period applies to the position.

Application

Please submit your electronic application in the ÅAU recruitment system (www.abo.fi/rekrytering), no later than May 10th 2021 at 15:00 (Finnish time). Guidelines for the electronic application are available at <https://www.abo.fi/en/instructions-for-submitting-an-application/>.

The application should include the following enclosures (in English or Swedish):

- Personal statement or motivation letter containing a description of your background and interests (max. 2 pages)
- Degree certificate(s)
- Recommendation letter from a previous employer, if available
- CV (max. 2 pages)

Additional information

For questions regarding the position contact Professor Cecilia Sahlgren (cecilia.sahlgren@abo.fi) and for questions concerning the recruitment process HR Specialist Sabina Ringvall (sabina.ringvall@abo.fi).