

Project researcher within Mechanics and inflammatory signaling in the endothelium

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 Research Flagship InFLAMES: Innovation Ecosystem based on the Immune System, funded by the Academy of Finland, invites applications for a fixed-term project researcher position in the field of endothelial mechanobiology and inflammatory signaling for a period of two years starting June 21st, 2021 or as agreed, the COVID-19 situation permitting. The fixed-termed position is full time.

About the research environment

The InFLAMES Flagship (<https://inflames.utu.fi/>) is a joint effort of Åbo Akademi University, University of Turku and the associated ecosystem. It aims at being an internationally recognized, top-level, immunological research and development cluster attracting both researchers and business partners. It will produce break-through knowledge on immunological principles and diseases. The Flagship also aims to provide novel discoveries, which lead to improved diagnosis and treatment of inflammatory disorders. Innovations, internationally recognized scientists, an extensive state-of-the-art research infrastructure and intensive academy–industry interactions form the foundation of the InFLAMES Flagship research.

Work tasks and qualifications

The position will be seated at the Sahlgren lab, Cell Fate Lab (<http://cellfatelab.github.io/>), Cell biology, Faculty of Science and Engineering in Turku.

The group seeks a project researcher to work on endothelial mechanobiology and integrity, barriers and mediators of inflammation and novel model systems. Mechanical forces and the Notch signaling pathway control the structure of vessel walls while deregulation of Notch is linked to atherosclerosis and pulmonary artery hypertension, associated with inflammation and arterial remodeling. Our aim is to study the interplay of mechanical, Notch and inflammatory signals in controlling the architecture of blood vessels via in vivo, in vitro and in silico model systems.

Key Responsibilities

- Conducting scientific research on inflammatory and mechanical factors and signaling as well as improved tools for mechanobiology studies.
- Activity in applying for external research funding

Qualifications (1/2)

- PhD in biosciences or other relevant discipline
- Outstanding potential and established excellence in research
- Strong interpersonal skills, including written and oral communication in English
- Strong organizational skills

Qualifications (2/2)

- Doctoral degree must have been completed by the end of the application period, but no more than approx. five years before the submission deadline for applications. (Not included in the net period of five years are maternity leaves, parental leaves, military service, etc.)
- Applicants are expected to have demonstrated expertise in vascular or mechanobiology research and competency in applying central cell and molecular biology methods

Desirable qualifications

- A link to a joint project of two InFLAMES researchers (<https://inflames.utu.fi/inflames-researchers/>)
- International research experience
- Experience in using zebrafish as an in vivo model or engineering novel platforms for in vitro experimentation

Salary and work time

- The salary offered is determined in accordance with the University salary system for teaching and research personnel.
- The project researcher is required to work a total of 1,612 hours per year. The work tasks will be defined in detail in an annual work plan.
- A trial period applies to the position.
- The salary will be based on level 5-6 of the job demand level for teaching and research 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.

Application

Please submit your electronic application in the ÅAU recruitment system (www.abo.fi/rekrytering) no later than May 24th, 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):

- Personal statement or motivation letter containing a description of your scientific background and research interests, and how they relate to research conducted at the InFLAMES Flagship (max. 2 pages)
- CV (max. 2 pages)
- Degree certificates
- List of publications with impact factors

Additional information

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