

## Faculty of Science & Health



### School of Nursing

#### Postdoctoral Researcher – Biochemistry and Immunology/cell culturing (Two Year Contract)

We are seeking to appoint a biochemist with some immunology/cell culturing experience to implement a Wellcome Trust-funded project to isolate and characterise the anti-inflammatory component of adult *Fasciola hepatica* antigen. While the project is based in DCU the successful candidate will be required to spend 4-6 months in the laboratory of Professor C. H Hokke, Leiden University Medical Centre, Netherlands, for the initial analysis of the material. The successful candidate will report to the Programme Principal Investigator, Dr Sandra O'Neill and will work in the Parasite Immune Modulation Group

Parasitic worms are believed to have protective effects against Th1-mediated autoimmune diseases such as Crohns and multiple sclerosis. The focus of our research is to isolate and structurally characterised novel molecules that have anti-inflammatory properties. Using these molecules we can identify novel mechanisms of immune regulation in order to elucidate the mechanisms of Th1 suppression induced by parasitic worm.

The successful applicant must have a PhD in Biochemistry with experience in the isolation and characterization of Glycoconjugates. The preferred candidate must have some cell culturing or immunology experience. Applications from candidates with more that 2 years post-doctoral experience and a record of high quality publications in peer-reviewed journals would be particularly welcome. Prior experience of working with helminths would be a considerable advantage.

#### Main duties and responsibilities:

- Conduct research within the Wellcome Trust research programme to isolate and characterise the anti-inflammatory component of adult *Fasciola hepatica* antigen, which includes a 4-6 month visit to the laboratory of Professor C. H Hokke, Leiden University Medical Centre, Netherlands.
- Disseminate research findings through international meetings and peer-reviewed publications
- Assist with training and supervision of doctoral students and academic visitors in research as appropriate
- Assist with supervision of student projects
- Play an active part in the academic life of the School and participate in departmental and faculty activities including participation in seminar programmes and laboratory meetings
- Keep an accurate account of his/her work in a designated lab notebook.
- Carry out research to enhance other projects in the lab when necessary.
- Provide material for analysis by other collaborators on the project.
- Any other reasonable duties as requested by the Head of Unit or Head of Department

The post is funded by the Wellcome Trust for a period of up 2 years and is expected to commence from 01 September 2011 and end on 31 August 2013. Applicants are asked to submit an academic CV no longer than 5 pages and to complete a DCU application form.

**Further information:**

For further information on this position please contact:

Dr Sandra O'Neill, (Project Principal Investigator) School of Nursing, DCU.

Tel: +353 1 700 5455

Email: [Sandra.oneill@dcu.ie](mailto:Sandra.oneill@dcu.ie).

Salary scale                    **€37,750 – €41,181**

This salary scale may be affected by the provisions of the 2011 Budget. Appointment will be commensurate with experience and may be subject to the first point of the salary scale.

Closing date:                    **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

**Application forms are available at:**

[http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/APPLICATION\\_FORM\\_8pg.doc](http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/APPLICATION_FORM_8pg.doc)

and from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9.

Tel: +353 1 700 5149    Fax: +353 1 700 5500    Email: [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie)

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