Research Assistant (part-time) - Cancer Niche Group

Blood Cancer Network Ireland,

Apoptosis Research Centre, NUI Galway

Ref. No. NUIG 043-17

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a part-time, fixed term contract as a research assistant for the Cancer Niche Group of Blood Cancer Network Ireland (BCNI) and Apoptosis Research Centre based in the Biomedical Sciences Building at NUI Galway. The position is available from April 2017 to March 2019 subject to an initial one year probationary period. This position is funded by Science Foundation Ireland and the Irish Cancer Society.

Organisation: BCNI focuses on research and early phase clinical trials for patients with blood cancers in Ireland. The Cancer Niche Group investigates how leukemia cells alter the bone marrow they reside in and how the bone marrow microenvironment can shelter leukemia cells from therapeutic drugs. The laboratory focuses on signal transduction pathways controlling cell viability, proliferation and quiescence. We also investigate how the immune system can be activated to identify and eliminate leukemic cells. Our studies are based on advanced 3D cell cultures and ex vivo models of the bone marrow.

Job Description: The Cancer Niche Group wishes to recruit a highly motivated and talented research assistant to support the research activities of the laboratory. The successful candidate should have a B.Sc. degree of first class honours or higher degree (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) in a relevant discipline (for example Biomedical science, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Medicine, Pharmacology). Research experience in cell biology, leukemia or bone marrow biology is an advantage. The research assistant will be required to work with Dr. Szegezdi with the following key roles:

- Design and implement laboratory standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- Carry out research experiments and analyse the data.
- Participate in collaborative translational research projects utilising the banked samples with industry and academic partners.
- Contribute to laboratory management tasks, such as health and safety tasks, ordering and maintenance of reagent inventories.

Qualifications: Essential

- B.Sc. in biomedical science, pharmacology, biotechnology or a related subject.
- Strong computer/technology skills including MS Excel, PowerPoint, and Word.
- Good experience in cell culture techniques.
- Accurate attention to detail with ability to working within tight deadlines.
- Excellent organisational and analytical skills.
- Flexibility and ability to work in a team environment.

Qualifications: Desirable

- Technical skills in flow cytometry, cell death, cell viability assays, western blotting
- Experience in leukemia biology, bone marrow hematopoietic microenvironment.
- Knowledge of biobanking and working experience with clinical patient databases.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills.

Continuing Professional Development/Training:
Researchers at NUI Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans.

Salary scale: €21,850 – €23,876 per annum, pro-rata for this part-time(50%) post.

Start date: Post is available from 1st May 2017

For informal enquiries about this post, please contact Dr Eva Szegezdi (eva.szegezdi@nuigalway.ie).

NB: Gárda clearance is a requirement for this post.

Further information on research at NUI Galway is available on Research at NUI Galway and the Galway Clinical Research Facility at http://www.nuigalway.ie/hrb_crfg/

To Apply:
Applications to include a covering letter, CV, and the contact details of three referees should be sent, via e-mail (in word or PDF only) to eva.szegezdi@nuigalway.ie
Please put reference number **NUIG 043-17** in subject line of e-mail application.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00 pm, Friday 24th March 2017.

National University of Ireland, Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.