

**Imperial College London
Division of Cell and Molecular Biology
Faculty of Natural Sciences**

Research Associate x 2

(Salary in the range of £23,850 to £34,750 per annum)

'Imperial College is ranked in the top ten universities of the world, according to the 2006 Times Higher Education Supplement league tables.'

Imperial College London invites applications for the following vacancies in the joint group of Prof. Fotis C. Kafatos and Dr. George K. Christophides at Imperial College London.

The successful applicants will be members of a large research team working on innate immunity and functional genomics of the malaria vector *Anopheles gambiae*. You will work on a programme aiming to understand the mosquito innate immune system and its interactions with *Plasmodium* parasites capitalizing on a variety of postgenomic tools. Required skills include standard molecular biology techniques with emphasis on protein biochemistry, including 2D-PAGE, mass spectrometry, purification of secreted proteins and protein expression. Experience in cell culture techniques is preferred.

You will also be skilled molecular biologists with a PhD in a relevant field and a track record of publications.

These positions are available immediately and funding is available for up to 3 years.

A job description and an application form can be obtained from:

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/employment/research/index.htm>

For further details please contact Rabeya Sultana, email: r.sultana@imperial.ac.uk

Completed application forms, accompanied by a CV and the name and contact details of two referees should be sent to Rabeya Sultana, BioMalPar Administrator, Cell & Molecular Biology, Imperial College London, Sir Alexander Fleming Building, South Kensington Campus, London, SWZ, r.sultana@imperial.ac.uk

Closing Date: 23 July 2007.

(Conference call interviews are possible for international candidates)

Valuing diversity and committed to equality of opportunity

Job Description

Job title:	Research Associate
Department/Faculty:	Divisions of Cell and Molecular Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences
Job Family/Level:	Level B, Research and Education Job Family
Hours:	Normally, not less than 35 hours per week
Salary:	£23,850 - £34,750 per annum
Duration:	For up to 3 years
Reporting to:	Professor Fotis Kafatos & Dr George Christophides
Location:	South Kensington campus

The purpose of the post:

You will be members of a large research team working on innate immunity and functional genomics of the malaria vector *Anopheles gambiae*. You will work on a programme aiming to understand the mosquito innate immune system and its interactions with *Plasmodium* parasites capitalizing on a variety of postgenomic tools.

The successful applicants will be skilled molecular biologists with a PhD and a track record of publications. The successful candidates will join a very active area of research at Imperial College, but nevertheless will be expected within the broad framework of malaria parasite/vector interactions to develop their own research area of national/international recognition.

Position 1:

Required skills include standard molecular biology techniques with emphasis on protein biochemistry, including 2D-PAGE, mass spectrometry, purification of secreted proteins and protein expression. Experience in cell culture techniques is preferred.

Position 2:

Required skills include standard molecular biology techniques and a strong background in high-throughput proteomic/transcriptomic analysis is essential. The successful candidate will also have experience in cell culture techniques including development of high-throughput *in vitro* assays.

Key Responsibilities:

The job holder will be supervised by Professor Kafatos and Dr Christophides and will be expected to undertake the following:

- To work independently on a day to day basis
- To take initiatives in the planning of research
- To ensure the validity and reliability of data at all times
- To maintain accurate and complete record of all findings
- Prioritise tasks within an agreed work schedule
- You will also be expected to contribute to the good running of the laboratory, and to work closely with students and other members of the group.
- To take initiatives in the planning of research
- To identify and develop suitable techniques, and apparatus, for the collection and analysis of data
- To conduct data analysis
- To ensure the validity and reliability of data at all times
- To maintain accurate and complete records of all findings
- To write reports for submission to research sponsors
- To prepare material for presentation in oral and poster formats
- To present findings to colleagues and at conferences
- To contribute to writing bids for research grants
- To provide guidance to staff and students
- To undertake instruction of PhD students as agreed
- To supervise practical work and advise students on techniques
- To take responsibility for organising resources and effective decision making in support of research
- To attend relevant workshops and conferences as necessary
- To develop contacts and research collaborations within the College and the wider community
- To promote the reputation of the Group, the Department and the College

Imperial College London is committed to equality of opportunity and to eliminating discrimination. All employees are expected to adhere to the principals set out in its Equal Opportunities in Employment Policy, Promoting Race Equality Policy and Disability Policy and all other relevant guidance/practice frameworks.

Job descriptions cannot be exhaustive and the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities.

Person Specification

Qualifications:

- A PhD in molecular biology or similar

Experience and Knowledge:

- Ability to conduct a detailed review of recent literature
- Ability to develop and apply new concepts
- Creative approach to problem-solving
- Excellent verbal communication skills and the ability to deal with a wide range of people
- Excellent written communication skills and the ability to write clearly and succinctly for publication
- Ability to organise own work with minimal supervision
- Ability to prioritise own work in response to deadlines
- Advanced computer skills, including word-processing, spreadsheets, Internet, programme in LabView and familiarity with object-orientated programming

In addition the Research Associate should be able to demonstrate:

- Ability to direct the work of a small research team and motivate others to produce a high standard of work
- High level analytical capability
- Ability to communicate complex information clearly
- Ability to apply relevant models, techniques and methods and develop new ones
- Ability to assess resource requirements and deploy them effectively
- Ability to encourage research culture in others

Personal Attributes

- Willingness to work as part of a team and to be open-minded and cooperative
- Commitment to meeting deadlines
- Commitment to maintaining and enhancing facilities and training others in their use
- Flexible attitude towards work
- Discipline and regard for confidentiality and security at all times
- Willingness to undertake any necessary training for the role

- Willingness to travel both within the United Kingdom and abroad to conduct research and attend conferences/workshops and other