

RESEARCH SCIENTIST Job Overview

A research scientist position is available immediately in the laboratory of Cecilia Giulivi (<https://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/faculty/cecilia-giulivi>) in the Department of Molecular Biosciences and MIND Institute at the University of California Davis. As the number one Veterinary Medicine School, the University of California at Davis has a strong tradition of training best-in-class healthcare professionals and developing cutting-edge procedures and research that improves the health and clinical care of human and animal patients.

The laboratory focuses on understanding mitochondrial dysfunction in autism and in neurodegeneration. To accomplish this, the team uses a combination of genetic, genomic, biochemical, and pharmacological approaches in patient's tissues, mammalian cell lines, and mouse models. The successful candidate will investigate how exosomes, genetic background, and sex differences (among others) influence the mitochondrial (dys)function in the neurodegenerative disorder FXTAS. The position will be available for at least two years with yearly extensions (up to a total maximum of five years) pending satisfactory progress and/or funding availability.

We seek a self-motivated, team-oriented individual with a strong work ethic and excellent communication skills. This position will support the University's mission and commitment to excellence and diversity in our students, faculty, staff, and all our activities.

Essential Functions

- Perform in-depth mitochondrial function assessments in mitochondria from primary or immortalized cells,
- Aide, supervise, design, and implement experimental assays, data generation, analysis, and interpretation.
- Write manuscripts and present data at national and international meetings.
- Assist in preparing materials for grant applications and active participation in other laboratory activities (laboratory meetings, journal clubs, seminars, etc.).
- Mentoring of graduate and/or undergraduate students may be required.
- Engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities.
- Play an active role in seeking career and research advice, both from the faculty supervisor and from other faculty members as well.
- Keep informed of developments in the field to maintain and enhance professional expertise.

Required Education

PhD or highly experienced MS or BS scientist in cell or molecular biology, biochemistry, or a related field. Experience with mammalian cell cultures and DNA/RNA transfection/transformation. Strong work ethic and ability to work in a team-based environment. Excellent organizational and communication skills.

Required Experience

Experience in one of the following areas: cell biology, mitochondrial biology, and quantitative analyses.

Additional Qualifications Considered

Postdoc research experience preferred.

Physical Requirements/Work Environment

No specific unusual physical or environmental demands.

Responsibilities:

Performs reliable research activities in an independent manner.

Manages experimental planning and execution promptly.

Maintains laboratory and experimental materials, including human cell cultures, in good functional conditions.

Discusses with team members ongoing research and lab management.

Research Environment

We are a collaborative team of researchers with diverse technical expertise and a strong emphasis on training and mentoring. The laboratory is well-equipped for performing biochemical, genetic, and bioenergetic assays. Excellent core research facilities – including NMR spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, and imaging – are available at the university. The university is in a vibrant college town (Davis) with a student population of about 30,000 and is within a 2-hour drive of San Francisco and Tahoe. The UC is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer that is committed to improving diversity.