POSITION : The Institute of Pharmacology and Structural recruits

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The Institute of Pharmacology and Structural Biology (IPBS) and the Centre for Integrative Biology (CBI) in Toulouse have launched a joint call for the recruitment of new group leaders.

IPBS and CBI are leading research institutes of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the University of Toulouse, respectively founded in 1996 and 2016. They are located in Toulouse, southwest France, on the main Campus of the Université Toulouse III-Paul Sabatier, offering multidisciplinary education in the fields of Science, Health, Engineering and Technology, and developing one of the most important scientific research clusters in France.

The CBI-Toulouse conducts internationally recognized research in in fundamental aspects of the structure and function of complex biological systems. Research at CBI covers all scales from individual molecules to the whole organism, groups and animal societies. It is multidisciplinary, combining a wide range of research fields from genetics, epigenetics and RNA biology to microbiology, cell biology, chromatin / chromosome dynamics, developmental biology, neurobiology, collective animal behavior, as well as computational and systems biology.

The IPBS-Toulouse is a world leader in the discovery, characterization and validation of novel pathways and pharmacological targets in the fields of cancer, infection and inflammation, through the use of molecular and cellular biology approaches, together with in vivo experiments. It conducts state-of-the-art research in cancerology, immunology, microbiology, structural biology, proteomics, and biophysics.

The two institutes bring together more than 650 scientists and supporting staffs, including more than 100 national and international postdoctoral fellows and PhD students, in 57 research groups. They offer an outstanding scientific and stimulating research environment and several cutting-edge core facilities with highly qualified staff. These include mass spectrometry and proteomics, macromolecular crystallography, electron microscopy with cryoEM, liquid- and solid-state NMR, biophysical characterization of proteins and complexes, virtual screening, single particle tracking and tethered particle motion analysis, whole body, tissue and cellular imaging, flow cytometry and cell sorting in standard or BSL3 laboratories and animal facilities (housing bees, Drosophila, zebrafish, Xenopus and mice), together with a computer cluster for large data analysis and simulation.

In order to reinforce their research endeavors in an inspiring, collaborative and cutting-edge environment, the IPBS and the CBI are seeking new talented group leaders addressing fundamental questions, with priority on:

1) MICROBIOLOGY, including

· Infection biology: Biology of bacterial pathogens, with a particular focus on respiratory pathogens, addressing the mechanisms underlying pathogens’ virulence and host-pathogen interactions, pathogens’ persistence, drug resistance or tolerance within the host.

· Quantitative and computational biology of microbes: Applied to all aspects of bacteria, archaea, unicellular
eukaryotes and their virus’s biology

- Integrative structural biology of microbes: Applications based on structure determination by cryo-EM and cryo-electron tomography are encouraged.


2) CANCER BIOLOGY, including

- Tumor microenvironment /Cancer immunology: Implication of stromal components (immune and other cells) and extra-cellular matrix in tumor progression; metabolic landscape of the tumor microenvironment; targeting microenvironment for cancer therapy (including immunotherapy)

- DNA repair in cancer with therapeutic connections: DNA damage response (DDR) in cancer (epigenetics, transcriptional regulation, DNA repair syndroms, chromosomal translocations) and DDR-targeted drug discovery, or tumor resistance and/or vulnerabilities to clastogenic agents and/or DDR modulation.


3) CELLULAR AND DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY, with complementary expertise to existing groups investigating numerous aspects from cell division, morphogenesis to progenitor/stem cell biology using model organisms. Candidates complementing or reinforcing this community are encouraged to apply. Particular attention will be given to interdisciplinary, experimental and/or theoretical projects encompassing biophysics, systems biology and/or computational approaches.


Successful candidates will be provided with office and lab space for 5-10 people, staff support, a financial starting package and free access to technological facilities of both institutes.

Outstanding candidates, of any nationality at early-career stage, are expected to develop competitive, independent research and meet the required criteria for successful application to national and international funding, including ATIP-Avenir, FRM, ANR “Jeunes Chercheurs-euses”, ERC-StG or CoG, or equivalent installation grant, and to a position at CNRS. Senior researchers holding a CNRS or University position are also welcome to apply.

Tentative calendar

Applications (about 10 pages, in English) should be sent before May 12, 2020

Mid-June: Preselection of candidates.

Mid-July: Interview of preselected candidates by the selection committee and presentation of planned research projects

End-July: Outcome of the selection process.

The IPBS-Toulouse (France) recruits - New Group leaders in Cancer Biology
The IPBS and CBI (Toulouse, France) recruit New Group leaders in Microbiology and Infection Biology
Junior group leader in Cellular and Developmental Biology