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Jury Meeting Minute
Reference of Fellowship IMM/BII/5-2021

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one Initiation Research Fellowship for a PhD student with the funding support from the European Research Council (ERC) under the project "**AXIAL.EC: Principles of Axial Polarity-Driven Vascular Patterning**" (ERC Starting Grant, GA 679368).

The ad was published at EraCareers Portal www.era Careers.pt on 12th February 2021 and also disseminated in iMM website. The call was opened from 1st March until 12th March 2021 and during which the following applicant applied:

- ✓ Ashish Ahlawat
- ✓ Catarina Fonseca

The applicant Ashish Ahlawat was excluded since he didn't send all mandatory documents as required in the job ad.

On the 15th of March 2021 the jury composed by Cláudio Franco, Edgar Gomes and Sérgio de Almeida (all PhD's), met to analyze the application documents (Motivation Letter; Detailed CV; MSc Degree certificate; Contact of two references; Document proving the enrollment in the PhD study cycle) in accordance to the profile and work plan indicated in the job advert.

Work Plan and Goals: *Angiogenesis is the mechanism of blood vessel formation from pre-existing ones and is vital for nutrient and oxygen delivery to all cells in the organism. In response to blood flow, endothelial cells polarise against the flow direction, and migrate from low-flow to high-flow regions. This polarised collective behaviour defines the hierarchical structure of the vasculature but the mechanisms that regulate ECs response to blood flow, its polarisation and migration and its impact in vascular remodelling, remains to be clarified. The aim of this project is to unveil the molecular mechanisms that regulate endothelial cell polarity. To do this, the candidate will establish a siRNA screening platform to identify regulator of flow response in endothelial cells.*

Candidate's Profile

- Master degree holder in Cellular and Molecular Biology, and related areas enrolled in a PhD study cycle
- Experience with cell culture and microfluidic techniques
- Experience in R programming language and COMSOL.
- Experience with multiplexing imaging methods
- Prior experience (more than 3 years) in vascular biology and confocal microscopy
- Good teamwork and interpersonal skills
- Excellent knowledge of English, written and spoken

Necessary Documents for Applications: - Motivation letter; - Detailed CV; - Master Degree certificate; - Contact of two references; - Document proving the enrollment in a PhD study cycle. **The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.**

Selection Method: The selection will be made based on CV 50%, Motivation Letter 20% and Interview 30%.

CV (50%)

The analysis of the Curriculum Vitae took in consideration:

- Master Degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology, and related areas enrolled in a PhD study cycle (10%);
- Experience with cell culture and microfluidic techniques (10%);
- Experience in R programming language and COMSOL (10%);
- Experience with multiplexing imaging methods (10%);
- Prior experience (more than 3 years) in vascular biology and confocal microscopy (10%).

Motivation Letter (20%)

The analysis of the Motivation Letter took in consideration:

- Interest and motivation for the proposed work plan (15%);
- Written English and communication (5%).

The analysis and discrimination of the sole admitted candidate classification in the First phase is presented in Annex I.

INTERVIEW (30%)


Following this, the jury decided to invite for an interview the applicant Catarina Fonseca. The interview took place on 17th March 2021 and it was based in the criteria indicated below:

- a) Adequacy of the track record of the candidate to the work plan (10%);
- b) Scientific curiosity and motivation for the proposed activities (10%);
- c) Ease of communication and autonomy (3.3%)
- d) High sense of organization and teamwork (3.3%);
- e) Command of the English language (3.3%).

The analysis and discrimination of the sole admitted candidate classification in the Second phase and total classification is presented in Annex II.

Unanimously, the jury decided that the candidate Catarina Fonseca fulfilled the necessary requirements for this position.

Lisbon, 17th of March 2021


Cláudio Franco


Edgar Gomes


Sérgio de Almeida

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Applicant	CV + Motivation Letter (70%)	Interview (30%)				Total ANNEX II	Justification	Total ANNEX I + ANNEX II
		Adequacy of the track record of the candidate to the work plan (10%)	Scientific curiosity and motivation for the proposed activities (10%)	Ease of communication and autonomy (3.3%)	High sense of organization and teamwork (3.3%)			
Catarina Fonseca	65	10	10	3	3	3	<p>Excellent fit of the track record to the work plan</p> <p>Extremely motivated and interested</p> <p>Very good communication, organizational, teamwork skills</p> <p>Very good english level</p>	94

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ANEXO I

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Applicant	CV (50%)						Motivation Letter (20%)		Total
	Master Degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology, and related areas enrolled in a PhD study cycle (10%)	Experience with cell culture and microfluidic techniques (10%)	Experience in R programming language and COMSOL (10%)	Experience with multiplexing imaging methods (10%)	Prior experience (more than 3 years) in vascular biology and confocal microscopy (10%)	Interest and motivation for the proposed work plan (15%)	Written English and communication (5%)		
Catarina Fonseca	10	10	7.5	7.5	10	15	5	65	

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ANEXO I

Justification
<p>Master Degree in Genetic and Molecular Biology, PhD Student in Bioengineering N18Cell Therapies and Regenerative Medicine Proficient in cell Culture and microfluidics Experienced in R and COMSOL Experienced in multiplexing imaging methods Proficient in Vascular biology and confocal microscopy Extremely motivated Very good English level</p>