Postdoctoral stipend in biochemistry and structural biology (Ref. 2021/2150)

Lund University, Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry, Center for Molecular Protein Science (CMPS)

The city of Lund is situated in the south of Sweden, a 35-minute train ride from Copenhagen’s airport and 50 minutes from the city of Copenhagen. Lund (95 000 inhabitants) is a friendly city with a historical center that offers a spectrum of opportunities for recreation and that is dominated by several universities. Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has around 44 000 students and more than 8 000 staff. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

The Faculty of Science conducts research and education within Biology, Astronomy, Physics, Geosciences, Chemistry, Mathematics and Environmental Science. The Faculty is organized into nine departments, gathered in the northern campus area. The Faculty has approximately 1500 students, 330 PhD students and 700 employees.

The Department of Chemistry has 20 divisions representing different science areas and these 20 divisions are divided into four centers: the Center for Molecular Protein Science (CMPS), the Center for Analysis and Synthesis (CAS), the Center for Applied Biosciences (CALS) and a the Divisions of Chemical Physics, Physical Chemistry and Theoretical Chemistry.

The Division of Biochemistry and Structural Biology belongs to CMPS and is one of the larger Divisions, with 11 research groups and 60 researchers, PhD students and postdocs. Herwig Schüler has recently established a research laboratory within the division.

Job description
We offer a 2-year stipend (3 months trial period applies) for postdoctoral research, with a possibility of a 2-year extension as a research associate. The position entails research on the biochemistry and structural biology of bacterial toxin-antitoxin system and is part of a collaboration across four research groups, financed by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.

We offer a laboratory that is fully equipped for protein science. Equipment for protein expression and purification (LEX system; 4 FPLCs), protein analyses (plate readers, DLS, ultracentrifuges) are available within the laboratory. Further equipment (CD-polarimeter, Biacore, ITC, MST etc.) is available within the division. Protein science and automated X-ray crystallography services are available from the LP3 facility located next door. Outstanding opportunities for X-ray crystallography and various structural biology methods exist in the close by MAX IV facility.

We seek a highly motivated person with previous experience in relevant areas (as detailed below) and superior team and communication skills.

General eligibility
Those qualified for appointment as a postdoctoral stipendiary are persons who have been awarded a PhD in a relevant area from a university outside of Sweden within 3 years prior to the starting date.

Basis of assessment
The applicant should:
- hold a PhD degree in biochemistry or a closely related area;
- have documented scientific expertise and skills in protein biochemistry research, documented by at least one first-author publication in an internationally recognized peer reviewed journal;
- have documented scientific expertise and skills of recombinant protein production;
- demonstrate evidence of superior team and communication skills.

Experience of using structural biology methods (in particular, X-ray crystallography) as tools to address biological research questions is considered a strong merit for the position.
Design and content of the application

Your application should have the following structure:

1. Cover letter (maximum 2 pages). Please explain:
   - How you are eligible for the position (general and detailed subject of your PhD);
   - Why you are interested in this position (motivation);
   - Which structural biology methods you have significant experience in and how this experience is documented (e.g., publications, PDB entries);
   - Contact details for 3 references whereof at least one should be a co-worker (co-PhD student, postdoc, lab technician).

2. Curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages). Please include:
   - Date (or expected date) of PhD diploma
   - List of published papers only (accepted papers: attach acceptance letter)

3. One-page summary of your PhD work, with focus on your own contribution

4. Proof of English proficiency

5. Copy of any stipend, grant, or reward that you have personally received.

Send your application as a single PDF file (document name: “YourName_2159”) by email to:

- HR administrator Thomas Björkman thomas.bjorkman@kc.lu.se
- Group leader Herwig Schüler herwig.schuler@biochemistry.lu.se

We wish to receive your application by August 15, 2021. Please address any questions about this position to herwig.schuler@biochemistry.lu.se before sending your application.