



PhD Positions - *Group Leader Massimo Santoro*

Position

The Laboratory of Endothelial Molecular Biology is looking for highly motivated, creative and enthusiastic PhD students to join their team of international researchers.

Our lab is focus to elucidate how endothelial and mural cells gene networks cooperate to shape and maintain the vascular system in vertebrates. We address this question by identifying specific vascular cellular and molecular signaling pathways that regulate angiogenesis and vascular homeostasis during normal (development) and pathological conditions (cancer).

The **project** will focus on the cellular, molecular and genetic manipulation of these pathways using animal models. The candidate will work in a laboratory that has acquired a strong experience in genetic, molecular and cellular biology of endothelial and mural cells in the zebrafish system. A state-of-art zebrafish facility, advanced genetic techniques for gene editing and advanced stereo/confocal/light sheet microscopy equipment are available in the laboratory and department for such vascular-related studies. Use of human primary cells and mouse models is achievable in the lab as well.

Successful candidates will be involved in this research project, under the direct supervision of Prof. Santoro and motivated postdoctoral fellows. Working in the team of Prof. Massimo Santoro will offer the candidate the opportunity to acquire experience in molecular and cellular biology, transgenesis, in vivo animal models and state-of-the-art research tools, such as flux metabolism and metabolomics.

Profile

Applicants should hold a Master degree in biomedical sciences, bioengineering, medicine or any related discipline. Motivated students of all nationalities with a strong commitment to basic and/or clinical research are invited to apply. Any experience in molecular biology, cellular and developmental biology, biochemistry, cell culture, metabolism, etc. is an advantage. The candidate should have well-developed social skills and be able to work in a team. Interest in the field of developmental angiogenesis, cell signaling and metabolism will be an additional asset. Applicants should have good communication skills in spoken and written English (proven knowledge of English is required, *TOEFL*® test).

We offer

We offer a dynamic working environment, stimulating scientific surrounding in a young, enthusiastic, motivated team (with English as main language) and the opportunity to work on high-impact projects. To meet the increasing demands of performing multidisciplinary research, VRC offers Core facilities including: Imaging, Molecular Biology, Metabolomics, Histology, Aquatic facility (zebrafish & tadpoles), transgenesis and mouse facility, etc.

Contact

Applications for this PhD position should be submitted to <mailto:Massimo.Santoro@vib-kuleuven.be>.

Your application file should contain a motivation letter, CV and publication list (if applicable), a summary of your previous research experience, your marks and degrees during your Master studies and a reference letter of the promoter of your master thesis.

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