

International Postdoctoral Program - 2017

Campus Vida Research Centers Network

The “Campus Vida” Research Centers Network of the University of Santiago de Compostela is seeking 6 postdoctoral researchers for a period of two years.

Campus Vida is a strategic initiative of the University of Santiago de Compostela that supports the excellence in academic, scientific, technological and socioeconomic research activity in Life Sciences and Technologies. In 2009 it was labelled as one of the eight Spanish International Campuses of Excellence (Spanish Ministry of Education). It promotes a research organization model that pursues the development of the best multidisciplinary frontier research, as well as the permanent collaboration with the healthcare sector and biotech companies, with a view to become an economic and social growth vector.

A key element of the Campus Vida is the **Network of Singular Research Centers** in the areas of Medicine ([CiMUS](#)), Chemistry ([CiQUS](#)) and Information Technology ([CITIUS](#)), with the aim of attaining academic and research excellence. These Centers host about 500 researchers, including 5 ERC Grants and 16 large European collaborative projects, and they are endowed with a self-demanding model of organization and operation, clearly differentiated from the classic university structures. The Centers work in a coordinated manner towards a cooperative and transdisciplinary research in strategic areas, oriented to scientific excellence and transfer of knowledge to society.

Campus Vida’s Research Centers are organized according to the following principles:

- Interdisciplinary research in strategic areas with a clear leaning towards the transfer of knowledge and the generation of returns for the society.
- Advice by an External Advisory Board, conformed by world-leading scientists.
- Scientific activity guided by a rigorous strategic planning.
- Executive scientific leadership.

CiMUS

[CiMUS](#) hosts 29 PI (including 2 ERC and Human Frontiers grantees), more than 50 postdocs and over 120 PhD students who publish around 150 papers/year, with an aggregate impact factor close to 1,000. On a yearly basis, the PIs have published in the most relevant journals in the biomedical field including Nature, Science, Nat. Med., Nat. Genet., Cell, Cell Metabolism, Gastroenterology, etc. Funding is obtained from different sources including a large number of EU-funded projects. Finally one of the strengths of the Center is the close collaboration with pharma and biotech industries.

CiQUS

[CiQUS](#) hosts 34 PIs (including 3 ERC grantees), 30 postdocs and over 100 PhD students, who publish around 100 JCR papers/year, with an average impact factor of 7.0 (2016). Since 2013, they have published over 50 papers in top-ranked journals, with IF>10, and obtained 3.6 million Eur/year from competitive R&D funds (30% international). During 2013-2016 CiQUS researchers have also obtained 10 granted patents (2 licensed) and collaborated in 3 new spin-offs.

CITIUS

Currently, [CITIUS](#) hosts a total of 100 researchers, of which 32 are senior researchers who have been selected by an external scientific advisory board. Since its creation in 2011, CITIUS researchers have published more than 200 JCR papers and participated in more than 60 R&D projects, most of them in collaboration with the industry sector. CITIUS researchers have also promoted 3 new spin-offs.

RESEARCH AREA OPENINGS

This International Postdoctoral Program is partially funded by the Consellería de Cultura, Educación e Ordenación Universitaria (Centros singulares de investigación de Galicia e Agrupacións estratéxicas consolidadas, 2016-2019) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The call offers up to 6 postdoctoral positions in the following areas:

1. Molecular Medicine and Chronic Diseases, [CiMUS](#): Neuroscience, Oncology, Cardiovascular, Endocrinology and Obesity, Experimental Therapies, Nanomedicine, Genomics and Biostatistics/Bioinformatics. See [research topics here](#).
2. Biological Chemistry and Molecular Materials, [CiQUS](#): Biological Chemistry, New Materials, including Nanobiomaterials, Synthetic Methodology, Structural Chemistry, Computational Chemistry. See [research topics here](#).
3. Information Technology, [CITIUS](#): High performance computing and cloud computing, e-Health, Data engineering, Business and web intelligence, Personal robots, Artificial vision. See [research topics here](#).

CONDITIONS

- Each postdoctoral position is for a period of two years.
- The candidate will join the selected research group (see Research Area Openings), under the supervision and mentoring of the relevant group leader(s), to develop an individual project in a stimulating scientific environment, having access to state-of-the-art research facilities and a number of training and career development opportunities.
- Employment contract with a gross salary of around 30,000 € per year, according to candidate's qualifications and experience.

The contract includes medical care coverage and work accident insurance through the Spanish Health Care System (*Seguridad Social*), providing access to the Spanish public health care system for the candidate and their family, as well as pension and unemployment benefits.

- Travel allowance of 1,100 €/year.
- Training program in transversal skills: intellectual and property rights, technology transfer, entrepreneurship, communication, management, etc.
- The estimated starting date is May-June 2017.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

We seek outstanding and highly motivated candidates, with initiative, creativity and the ability to work in a team. The position is open to researchers that fulfil the following requirements:

1. Academic background:

Candidates must hold a PhD in an area related to the relevant research opening. Candidates who have completed their PhD thesis at the University of Santiago de Compostela will not be eligible.

Preference will be given to candidates who have at least one year of postdoctoral research experience and awarded their PhD after January 1st 2012. Fluency in English is essential.

2. Mobility:

Applicants must not have carried out their main activity in Spain for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the contract's starting date.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Selection criteria will be the scientific excellence of the candidate, interest in the research proposal described in the motivation letter, and the other required information.

The evaluation will follow the principles of excellence and equality, as stated in the statutes of the University of Santiago de Compostela and the Strategic Plan of their [Office for Gender Equality](#).

Number of positions: up to 6

APPLICATION

The application must contain information about the candidate's research background and work experience, including:

- A detailed CV (the use of this [CV template](#) is highly recommended) including personal contact information, education, list of publications and any other relevant information (projects, awards...)
- A motivation letter (max. 2 pages) outlining: (i) research background, work experience and (ii) a brief research proposal.

In order to prepare the research proposal, candidates **must select one of the eligible research topics and contact the prospective group leaders/researchers for guidance.**

- Two reference letters, or the names and contact addresses of at least two referees.

Applications must be submitted by e-mail to centros.singulares@usc.es stating one of the following options in the subject line: POSTDOC-CIMUS, POSTDOC-CIQUS or POSTDOC-CITIUS.

Only one application per candidate will be accepted. Incomplete or improperly filled out applications will be discarded.

Closing date for applications: **12.03.17** at 23h59 CET (UCT + 02:00)

Contact information: centros.singulares@usc.es