



P.N. 0595-P/174448
07 April 2025

One (1) Research Assistant Position

[Ref # ELD-0738]

The research group of Dr. Panayiota Poirazi, supported by the HFRI grant, DENDROLEAP 28056 P.N. 95973/24-10-24 (Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation and Stavros Niarchos Foundation), is seeking one (1) Research Assistant. This position will contribute to the project "A dendro-centric framework for learning optimization in biological and artificial systems" by providing essential support for experimental procedures.

About the lab

The Poirazi Lab investigates how dendrites and their integrative properties contribute to learning and memory-related functions, using computational and experimental techniques. Our models explain findings and predict new roles for dendrites in functions such as spatial navigation/learning, working memory, associative memory, visual processing, etc. We also perform behavioral experiments in mice and use 2-photon imaging of prefrontal cortical neurons to investigate the cellular correlates of flexible behavior. The laboratory offers a thriving and lively research environment and is well-funded by several competitive grants.

About the project and position description:

The DendroLeap project focuses on investigating the role of dendrites in enhancing learning in biological and artificial systems. It has both an experimental and a computational component. The experimental component consists of behavioral and imaging experiments in rodents whereby we investigate how synaptic and dendritic dynamics in the cortex may underly the ability of mice to adapt their behavior in rule changing tasks. The Lab Assistant will provide experimental support to the DendroLeap team regarding the execution of behavioral and 2photon imaging experiments. Central to this role is the establishment and maintenance of behavioral protocols, the administration of experimental treatments, breeding and genotyping of mice, support for surgeries and execution of spine imaging experiments etc. The Lab Assistant will not only perform routine lab tasks but also engage in active collaboration with the experimental team, contributing to the development of experimental designs and protocols. Furthermore, they will analyze experimental data, derive key insights, and effectively disseminate findings through presentations, reports, and contributions to scientific publications.

Required qualifications:

- MSc in Neuroscience (or integrated BSc/MSc)
- BSc in Neuroscience or related field
- Previous experience in behavioral experiments with rodents
- Previous experience in analyzing data acquired from behavioral experiments (e.g., familiarity with DeepLabCut, Arduino, Python) and imaging (e.g., activity dynamics, spine dynamics)
- Excellent oral and written skills in English language
- Communication skills

Desired qualifications:

- Highly motivated and creative individuals who want to work in a dynamic, multidisciplinary research environment.
- Experience with molecular biology techniques, such as genotyping, or tissue processing.
- Familiar with the principles and applications of 2-photon microscopy.
- Willing to interact with both experimental and theoretical team members.

	Evaluation criteria	Maximum score
1.	MSc in Neuroscience (or integrated BSc/MSc)	YES / NO
2.	BSc in Neuroscience or related field	YES / NO
3.	Prior experience (Behavioral experiments =10 points, Behavioral and neuroimaging data analysis= 10 points)	20
4.	Prior experience in wet lab procedures (tissue processing, genotyping, breeding etc)	20
5.	Excellent oral and written skills in English language (B1: 7 points, B2: 8 points, C1: 9 points, C2: 10 points)	10
6.	Interview where the following skills will be assessed: a) Research interests (10 points) b) Previous research experience (10 points) c) Communication skills (10 point)	30
7.	Reference letters (Excellent: 20 points, very good: 10 points)	20
Total score		100

Contract Duration: Full Time and Fixed term for 6 months with the possibility of renewal

Total budget: According to national legislation (N. 4354/2015) and experience

Envisaged starting date: from 1st June 2025

Deadline for the submission of applications: May 4th, 2025

The application should consist of:

1. Application Form (see below)
2. CV
3. Brief statement of purpose
4. The names and contact details of two referees
5. Scanned copies of academic titles
6. Scanned copies proving all the qualifications

Submission of applications: eld0738@imbb.forth.gr

Evaluation procedure

Applications will be evaluated by a three-member evaluation committee. In case of interview procedure, applicants will be invited to participate in person or teleconference.

In case of titles and qualifications awarded by foreign Higher Education Institutions, the provisions of the Law 55/2023 (article 36) and 4957/2022 (article 304) are implemented.

The results of the selection will be announced on the website of IMBB-FORTH. Applicants have the right to appeal the selection decision, by addressing their written objection to the IMBB secretariat within five days since the results announcement on the web. Objections are submitted in one of the following ways: in person, by an authorized person, by post, by courier. They also have the right to access (a) the files of the applicants as well as (b) the table of applicants' scores (ranking of applicants results). All the above information related to the selection procedure will be available at the secretariat of IMBB-FORTH in line with the Hellenic Data Protection Authority. Access to personal data of co-applicants shall be limited to personal data (and relevant data) and supporting documents which have been the basis of the evaluation of the applicants for the specific post(s). Prior to the announcement of the personal data and/or documents of the co-applicants to the

applicant, FORTH will inform the data subjects in an appropriate way.

The selected applicants will be notified personally regarding the success of his/her application and will be requested to submit certified copies of his/her degrees. If the submitted documents do not agree with the original application, the applicant will be dismissed.

GDPR Disclaimer

FORTH is compliant with all legal procedures for the processing of personal data as defined by the Regulation EU/2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data. FORTH processes the personal data and relevant supporting documents that applicants have submitted. Processing of that data is carried out exclusively for the needs and purposes of this specific call. Such data shall not be transmitted to or communicated to any third party unless required by law.

FORTH retains the above data up to the announcement of the final results of the call, unless further process and reservation is required by law or for purposes of exercise, enforcement, prosecution of certain one's legitimate legal rights' as defined in the Regulation EU/2016/679 and/or in national law. Under the Regulation EU/2016/679, applicants have the rights to be informed about their personal data, access to, rectification and erasure, restrictions of process and objection to as provided by applicable regulation and national laws. Applicants have the right to file a complaint to the national Data Protection Authority. For any further information regarding exercise of personal data protection rights, applicants may contact the Data Protection Officer at FORTH at dpo@admin.forth.gr.

Applicants have the right to withdraw your application and consent for the processing of personal data at any time. In this case, FORTH shall destroy such documents and/or supporting documents submitted and shall delete the related personal data.

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____
Surname: _____
Date of birth (dd/mm/yy): _____
Address: _____
Telephone number: _____
Email address: _____

TO
FOUNDATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (FORTH)
INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Hereby I submit my application for the position:

In the framework of the project: _____

Position code [Ref #] _____

Submitted with this application:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

I certify that:

- A) I accept the terms and conditions of the job announcement
- B) I possess all the necessary certificates and documents and I can present them in their original form to the committee without any delay if I am asked to do so
- C) I am able to complete the project within the foreseen time -frame
- D) all the information given in the framework of this application are accurate and true.

Date: _____

Applicant name

(signature)