Three (3) PhD Student Positions

[Ref # ORZ-0620]

The research group of Panagiotis Moschou under the European Program Horizon Europe-ERC-CoG, entitled “Limited proteolysis mechanisms in plants for selective protein translation to improve heat tolerance” (Program Coordinator Prof. Panagiotis Moschou) invites applications for three (3) motivated PhD Students to assist with the implementation of the project.

About the lab:
The Moschou Lab will build on novel protein-RNA interaction rules to explore their functions in environmental adaptation and development. These positions are multi-year and funded by the ERC. The Lab studies RNA/protein assemblies that transduce environmental and developmental signals; recent relevant papers (2023-2024): https://doi.org/10.1093/plcell/koad288 https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002305 https://doi.org/10.15252/embj.2022111885 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tplants.2023.04.006. To reach their aims, the Lab uses a large set of interdisciplinary approaches, including genetics, molecular methods, and genomics.

About the project:
The main aspects of the project include studying a new rule and its role in physiology based on the recently published concept of the “coregulons” that can be built by proteins/RNAs in condensates. The PhDs will work in collaboration with other members of the group on the working packages of the ERC project https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101126019.

Job description:
The lab seeks motivated and passionate learners to join our team. Candidates should have a background in molecular biology and/or informatics and be fluent in English (written & oral). Experience in handling genetic data, proficiency in cell biology, and experience working with plants are pluses. We offer training in advanced imaging, and various molecular & genetic skills for investigating fundamental cellular mechanisms. The lab is committed to developing the student’s communication & critical thinking through journal clubs, conferences, presentations, and research visits abroad.

Required qualifications:
– BSc in Biology, Life Sciences, Chemistry or relevant topics
– MSc in Biology, Life Sciences, Chemistry or relevant topics
– Excellent oral and written skills in English language

Desired qualifications:
– Handling genetic data,
– Good programming skills
– Experience working with plants
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<tr>
<th>Evaluation criteria</th>
<th>Maximum score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. BSc. degree grade (Score points = grade x 0.5)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. MSc. degree grade (Score points = grade x 0.5)</td>
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<td>3. Experience in handling genetic data (6-12 months = 10 points, &gt; 12 months = 20 points)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>4. Good programming skills (6-12 months = 10 points, &gt; 12 months = 20 points)</td>
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<td>5. Experience working with plants (6-12 months = 5 points, &gt; 12 months = 10 points)</td>
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<td>6. Relevant knowledge to the project as shown by the presentation in an interview (good=10 points, very good=20 points, excellent=30 points, outstanding=40 points)</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td><strong>Total score</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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**Contract Duration:** 12 months with the possibility of extension.

**Total budget:** 900 net € monthly

**Envisaged starting date:** July 1st 2024

**Application submission:** Interested applicants should submit their application electronically by May 20, 2024 @ 13:00 (Greece time)

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: orz0620@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 their 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)