

Research Assistant/Research Associate Ref Number: 14861/DPO/A3

Salary: £25,623 - £28,839 (grade 6)/£31,513 - £35,469 (grade 7) per annum

Title: Micro Engineered Constructs for CNS repair

Recovery from spinal cord injury in humans is hindered by the development of scar tissue and a limited ability for axonal regeneration. Advanced therapy envisaged for the repair of spinal cord injury involves a combined treatment approach. This entails cellular transplants established in damage bridging artificial guidance constructs, which are then placed in the area of injury and supported by pharmacological intervention that counteracts the inhibitory scar environment. Our earlier research showed that neuronal axons inside otherwise supportive cellular grafts are often disorganised and do not exit the scar region. In this interdisciplinary team effort we intend to develop a novel combined treatment system. This is based on our established cell grafting technology and novel microfabricated 3-dimensional scaffolds that will be filled with appropriate cells and transplanted into a spinal cord lesion in order to guide and support functional repair as part of an integrated advanced therapy.

The 3 year BBSRC project funds two research associates at either grade 6 or grade 7 depending on qualifications and experience. Post 1 will be based in Prof Barnett's group concentrating on the glia- and neuro-biology of the cells within the construct. The second post is based at the Centre for Cell Engineering with Dr Mathis Riehle (Bio) and Dr Nikolaj Gadegaard (Engineering) and concentrate on developing and fabricating constructs as well as the development of suitable bioreactor environments for long-term tissue culture in the scaffolds.

Applicants should have experience in bioengineering, tissue engineering or a related field, post doctoral experience would be advantageous.

Dr Mathis O. Riehle (tel: 0141-3302931, e-mail M.Riehle@bio.gla.ac.uk), Centre for Cell Engineering, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, UK

More info on these posts is available on the following websites:

Grade 6: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/jobs/vacancies/researchandteaching/14861ra6/#d.en.108602>

Grade 7: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/jobs/vacancies/researchandteaching/14861ra7/#d.en.108622>

Readership in Cell Biology

SULSA is an alliance of six universities which, in partnership with the Scottish Funding Council, is aimed at projecting the Life Sciences in Scotland as a world leading force by bringing together research strategy and resources. SULSA aims to enhance the Life Sciences in Scotland through the recruitment of outstanding researchers, support of graduate training and implementation of shared leading-edge technology platforms. SULSA has been established through a £76m investment programme administered by the Scottish Funding Council and the constituent universities.

As a member of SULSA, the Faculty of Biomedical & Life Sciences (FBLS) is seeking to appoint an outstanding researcher who has established an internationally excellent research programme in the field of Cell Biology to augment our strengths in this theme.

The successful applicant will be expected to make a significant contribution to a programme of international quality research.

The closing date for full applications is 20th February 2009.

Research in Cell Biology is associated with a number of research themes within the Faculty including Cell Biology, Cell Engineering, Neuroscience & Molecular Pharmacology.

More information is available following the links on the following page: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/faculties/fbls/sulsaadvert/>