Postdoctoral fellow position in the CHNG laboratory at the Department of Chemistry, NUS

A postdoctoral research fellow position is available from October 2015 in the laboratory of Dr. Shu-Sin Chng.

Our research program lies at the interface of chemistry and biology, and involves the use of chemical, biochemical, genetic and biophysical approaches to characterize both the chemistry and biology of a given system. The problem that our group is interested in studying is membrane biogenesis, i.e. how a biological membrane is assembled. Membrane lipid bilayers form the basis for life, physically defining cells and organelles, and modulating the chemical environments within these compartments for optimal metabolism and growth. Despite these fundamental roles, however, our understanding of membrane biogenesis has remained rudimentary; we do not know how a cell makes more of itself. Conceptually, the assembly of a membrane involves acquisition of its protein and lipid constituents from another compartment where these molecules are synthesized. For lipids, this entails transport from one membrane to another, usually across an aqueous environment. Our research group is focused on using bacterial outer membranes as models to understand membrane biogenesis. Specifically, we are interested in elucidating the mechanisms of inter-membrane phospholipids and mycolic acids trafficking in Gram-negative bacteria and mycobacteria, respectively.

We are recruiting a highly-driven, creative and ambitious postdoctoral fellow to join us in our efforts to understand mycobacterial outer membrane biogenesis.

Postdoctoral fellow candidates must hold (or be close to obtaining) an internationally-recognized Ph.D. degree in microbiology, biochemistry, genetics or related fields, and should have a proven track record of excellence in experimental research. Candidates with strong expertise in bacterial genetics and/or mycobacteria work are highly encouraged to apply.

Interested candidates for either position should send their applications via email to Shu Sin (chmchngs@nus.edu.sg).

Email submissions for the postdoctoral fellow position must include a one-page statement of research interests, CV, and the contact details of three potential references.

This position is available for 1 year with possible extension to 3 years or more, depending on research progress and performance. Competitive salary will be offered to candidates who fulfil the requirements for the respective position. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted via email.