



SARChI in Microbial Genomics Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics
University of the Western Cape



The DSI/NRF-funded South African Research Chair in Microbial Genomics, based at The Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics (IMBM) at the University of the Western Cape, invites applications for a 2-year postdoctoral fellowship in the project “Marine Microbes To The Rescue”.

Project Description

In collaboration with marine natural product chemists and biotechnologists in Scotland, Norway, France and Italy, this project focuses on marine bacteria producing anti-convulsant, anti-cancer, anti-microbial or anti-inflammatory activities. The candidate will join a team of researchers employing genome sequencing, transcriptome and genetic engineering strategies in parallel with chemistry-guided isolation and biochemical assays, to achieve the following aims: i) isolate and characterize novel metabolites, ii) link their expression to the biosynthetic pathways encoding them, and iii) develop over-expression strains for target pathways and compounds.

Minimum Criteria:

- A PhD degree in Microbiology / Biochemistry;
- a minimum of 2 years post-PhD experience;
- experience in cloning, heterologous expression and genetic engineering strategies;
- a strong publication record;
- interpersonal skills;
- project management experience;
- demonstrated examples of taking the leadership of a project;
- experience in working as part of a multi-disciplinary team. Experience in transcriptomics will be an advantage.

Application Submission:

The candidate will be under the supervision of **Prof. Marla Trindade** (ituffin@uwc.ac.za). To apply, please submit the following documents to Ms Robin Karelse (rkarelse@uwc.ac.za): •a covering letter stating why you are interested in the fellowship and listing examples that demonstrate how you meet all the minimum criteria; •your curriculum vitae; •full academic records; •the contact details of two academic referees.

The position will be funded at between R250 000 – R300 000 per annum, in line with the candidate's qualifications and level of research experience. This is a full-time position and fellows may not hold full-time salaried employment during the tenure of the fellowship.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 2 MAY 2021