

Postdoc / PhD position in translational stem cell research, Neuroscience and Psychiatry

Are you interested in the human brain and associated disorders? Do you want to use state of the art in vitro and bioinformatic tools to tackle human diseases? At the Hector Institute for Translational Brain Research (HITBR) we have 2 vacant positions: postdoctoral fellow and PhD student in translational stem cell research in psychiatry. The candidates will work in an interdisciplinary environment together with experts in neuroscience, neurology and bioinformatics in well-equipped laboratories. The HITBR is associated to the Central Institute of Mental Health (ZI) in Mannheim, Germany and additionally to the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) located in nearby Heidelberg with the most modern and state-of-the-art research and multi-OMICs profiling facilities available.

The positions are funded by a five-year Hector Foundation grant. We will study neuropsychiatric diseases using iPSC-derived cellular models including cerebral organoids and generate multimodal high-dimensional time-series data of the cells, the transcriptome and methylome together with morphometric and functional parameters. Single-cell/nuclei- and ATAC-sequencing will be conducted on isolated nuclei. Gene regulation networks associated with human brain development and neuropsychiatric diseases will be derived. Identified changes associated with neuropsychiatric disorders will be used for pharmacological screens. The positions should start as soon as possible and are for a period of 3 years, with the possibility of an extension. Salary will be according to the German salary scale TV-L E13 (Postdoc: 100%; PhD: 65%). The CIMH is an equal opportunity employer. We are looking for candidates with a passion for developmental neurobiology and/or associated diseases and experiences in cell culture techniques, microscopy, biochemistry or molecular biology. Skills in multi-omics analyses is a plus.

Postdoc: We want you to have (1) one prior original article published as the first author; (2) a Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree; (3) research experiences in stem cell derived neuronal cultures; (4) strong quantitative skills preferable in bioinformatics or statistics; (5) excellent writing and spoken English. Candidates dedicated to succeeding in academic research career are preferred and such career paths will be supported.

PhD-position: You should (1) hold a Master degree in Neurobiology, molecular Biomedicine, Biochemistry, Bioinformatics, Biotechnology or equivalent; (2) have a strong interest in developmental neurobiology, psychiatry, stem cell research, biotechnology or disease modeling; (3) be highly motivated, team-oriented and capable of independent working. Experience with cell culture techniques, microscopy, biochemistry or molecular biology techniques and omics analyses is advantageous. The PhD position will be integrated into the grad programs of the University of Heidelberg, Faculty of Biosciences. Successful candidates will be awarded a PhD.

Apply. Please submit (1) your CV, (2) a cover letter outlining your motivation, goals, strength, and weakness, (3) your academic transcripts, and (4) contact information for two references to:

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