Research Centre: Fraunhofer Project Centre for Embedded Bioanalytical Systems at Dublin City University (FPC@DCU) – a joint initiative of Science Foundation Ireland and Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

Post title: Technical Officer Supporting Bioassay Optimisation on Microfluidic “Lab-on-a-Chip” Systems

Post duration: Fixed Term up to 31st of December, 2019.

Background
DCU has a strong track record in attracting both Irish and European Union research funding under Horizon 2020 (and previous Framework Programmes), Marie Curie Actions and Erasmus. We offer a dynamic and internationally-focused environment in which to advance your career. An exciting job opportunity in a very innovatively spirited, commercially focussed research centre within Dublin City University – Ireland’s University of Enterprise. The technology-led centre engineers next-generation life-science technologies for the benefit of people and societies.

In this role you will have access to competent technical, infrastructural and administrative support and the opportunity to evolve a multi-faceted skill set in an environment where you closely collaborate with leading Irish and international companies and research organisations. You support the development of microfluidics-enabled “Lab-on-a-Chip” systems for decentralised bioanalytical testing towards high technology readiness levels.

The position will be located in the Fraunhofer Project Centre (FPC) for Embedded Bioanalytical Systems planned at Dublin City University (DCU), collaboration with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology (IPT) in Germany. This new, commercially driven research initiative conducts application driven research on in-vitro (“point-of-care”) diagnostics, pharma and agrifood and environmental monitoring.

Role: Technical Officer
The successful candidate will provide technical expertise, and manage and support related infrastructure and equipment to implement, optimise and benchmark (bio-) analytical methods microfluidic systems developed in FPC@DCU.

Responsibilities
Reporting to the Centre Director or a manager appointed by him, the duties and responsibilities attached to the post include:

- Supporting FPC@DCU’s researcher team in the identification and development of appropriate assay protocols addressing applications including
  - Clinical chemistry.
  - Immunoassays.
  - Molecular diagnostics/nucleic acid testing.
- Leading and supporting the development of the appropriate off- and on-chip sample preparation protocols of bio samples required to facilitate downstream assay implementation.
• Identification, implementation and benchmarking of (typically chip-based microfluidic) methods (e.g., flow cytometry, well-plate ELISA/FLISA, SPR) developed in house against the relevant gold standards methods.
• Experimental characterisation and optimisation of the performance of bioassays implemented on the microfluidic platforms.
• Managing FPC@DCU’s equipment and infrastructure for bioanalytical characterisation.
• Certain administrative tasks.

Desired Skills and Experience
The successful candidate must hold an honours degree (NFQ Level 8) in a relevant discipline and should have at least 1 year’s relevant experience in a similar role. Under overall guidance of a researcher, you should have a proven track record of working in a team as well as handling select aspects independently. Familiarity with the operations of a scientific laboratory environment would be desirable, with particular emphasis on Immunoassays and Nucleic Acid-based amplification. A self-starting attitude, good interpersonal skills and high technical expertise are a prerequisite.

Salary Range: *€32,711 - €37,389

*Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience will be made on the appropriate point of the salary scale, in line with current Government pay policy.

Closing date: 4th February 2019

Informal enquiries to: Prof. Jens Ducrée (jens.ducree@dcu.ie)

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below
Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at https://www.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0) 1 700 5149.
Applications should be submitted by email to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: +353 (0)1 7005500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 1 700 5149; Fax: +353 1 700 5500 Email: hr.applications@dcu.ie

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line:
Job Ref: 1098 Technical Officer Supporting Bioassay Optimisation on Microfluidic “Lab-on-a-Chip” Systems

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