



Research Centre	National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology School of Biotechnology
Position title	Marie-Curie Early Stage Researcher (ESR)
Post duration	36 months fixed term contract

Background:

This is an opportunity to join a Marie Slodowska Curie Initial Training Network (**eCHO Systems**) as an ESR focused on the improvement of recombinant protein production (Biopharmaceuticals) in Chinese Hamster ovary (CHO) cells. This is a large EU Horizon 2020-funded program that will employ 15 ESRs in total **to complete their PhD training** on various aspects on CHO cell molecular and systems-level biology. The network consists of 4 Academic institutions from across Europe and more than a dozen industry partners. A more detailed overview of the ITN can be found at <http://www.echo-systems.eu/>

This ESR will be registered on the PhD program at Dublin City University within the National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB, http://www.nicb.dcu.ie/research_cho_home.html), under the supervision of Dr. Niall Barron. The ESR will also spend a short secondment at Eli-Lilly in Cork, Ireland.

Project Title: miRNAs as metabolic sensors and engineering tools

Objectives:

- To identify correlations between individual miRNA expression profiles, various cellular metabolic profiles and CHO culture conditions. This information will then be used to design plasmids containing miRNA response elements.
- To test transgene expression from these plasmids in response to endogenous miRNA expression.

Expected Results:

- Identification of miRNAs whose expression is indicative of cellular metabolic state
- Engineering artificial 3'UTRs containing miRNA binding sites into protein-encoding transgenes
- Generation of CHO cell lines that express a range of transgenes in response to specific metabolic conditions, e.g. high lactate production

Minimum Criteria

Applicants must have an MSc degree in cell biology, molecular biology, biochemistry or related science. Experience in molecular biology techniques and knowledge of eukaryotic cell biology are desirable. Good communication skills in English, both written and spoken.

Salary: Marie Curie ESR Salary will be in the range of €37,903 - €42491 p.a., before taxes, as determined by EU guidelines.

Conditions

As a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher, you shall at the time of recruitment be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of your research career and have not yet been awarded a doctoral degree. At the time of recruitment, you shall not have resided or carried out your main activity (work, studies etc.) in the country of the host institution (Ireland) for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the reference date. Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.

Closing date: 26th February 2015

Informal enquiries to:

Dr Niall Barron, NICB, DCU

E-mail: niall.barron@dcu.ie

Please do not send applications to this e-mail address, instead apply as described below.

Application Procedure:

Applications should include a CV (with 3 references) and covering letter, explaining why you are interested in pursuing a PhD in this area, and be submitted with the application form as outlined below.

Application forms are available from:

Application forms are available from the *DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions)* website at <http://www.dcu.ie/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: [+353 \(0\) 1 7005149](tel:+353017005149).

Applications should be submitted by email to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by Fax: [+353 \(0\)1 7005500](tel:+353017005500) or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9.

Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer