RESEARCH GRANT (BI) (1 vacancy)

Reference: ACUINANO BI 2021-085

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 Research Grant in the framework of the project ACUINANO, with reference 0712_ACUINANO_1_E, project funded by the INTERREG VA Spain-Portugal cooperation programme (POCTEP) through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Biological Sciences

2. Admission requirements:

The candidate must hold a Master in Biology or related areas and be able to enroll in a PhD programme or non-degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or several R&D units, at the time of application. Preference will be given to candidates with previous work experience in ecotoxicology and culture of animal cells. The candidate will be involved in animal cell tests with nanoparticles, data analysis and interpretation of transcriptomics and proteomics studies, under the direction of the PI of the project, and should have the following knowledge, skills and experience:

- Independent capacity to set-up ecotoxicology experiments with animal cell lines;
- Experience in proteomics and/or transcriptomics methodologies (quantitative RT-PCR);
- Experience in handling and analysis of complex gene and protein expression data and perform gene enrichment and molecular pathway analysis;
- Experience in writing scientific publications;
- Fluent English speaking and writing;

In the event the MSc degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, said degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August until the signature of the contract.

3. Work plan:
The candidate will be enrolled in the development and implementation of in vitro biossays with fish cell lines, to assess the toxicity of nanoparticles, and also on the analysis of transcriptomic and proteomic data already collected in the project, and report the effects related with the exposure to TiO2 and Ag nanoparticles, at the molecular level, employing proteomics and transcriptomics methods. The candidate will be also enrolled on the coordination of selected activities related with project management, dissemination and communication.

4. Legislation and official rules:

Law nº. 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship and Studentship Regulation); Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. and CIIMAR Grants Regulation.

5. Work place:

The work will be carried out at CIIMAR, Edifício do Terminal de Cruzeiros do Porto de Leixões, Av. General Norton de Matos, s/n, Matosinhos, under the coordination of Alexandre Campos.

6. Duration of the contract:

Duration of five (5) months, starting December 2021 under the regime of exclusive dedication.

7. Monthly salary:

The monthly maintenance allowance is 1.104,64 € (one thousand one hundred and four euros and sixty four cents), in agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend table of the grants directly attributed by FCT, I.P. within the country: https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.en, by bank transfer payment.

8. Selection methods:

Candidates will first be ranked according to a global Curriculum Vitae evaluation. The candidates’ CV score (CVS) will be the sum of the evaluation for the Academic Qualification (AQ) and the Work Experience (WE), in accordance with the formula:

\[ \text{CVS} = 0,4 \text{ AQ} + 0,6 \text{ WE} \]
Academic qualification (AQ) will be scored from 0 to 10 and the evaluation will take into account the University – level degrees of the candidate and their appropriateness to the position.

Work experience (WE) evaluation will take into account i) the experience in the field of study, scored from 0 to 10 with a relative weight of 70%; ii) scientific publications in ISI journals in the area of preference, scored from 0 to 10 and with a relative weight of 10%; and iii) a global appreciation of the motivation of the candidate and interest in the field of research, taking into account the motivation letter, also scored from 0 to 10 and with a relative weight of 20%.

The jury reserves the right to not assign the research grant if none of the candidates meets all requirements and matches the desired profile. Interview may be required for the top-three scoring candidates. If so, the interview will add a maximum of 2 values to the evaluation of the Curriculum Vitae.

9. Composition of the jury selection:
President of the jury: José Carlos Martins
Vogal: Isabel Cunha
Vogal: Mario Jorge

10. Form of Advertising/notification of results:
The final results of the evaluation will be published through a list sorting the candidates according to their attributed mark, by e-mail; in case of disagreement, the candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if he/she so wishes, as provided for in the Código do Procedimento Administrativo in a preliminary hearing setting.

11. Deadline for application and presentation of applications:
The competition is open from 23 November until 7 December 2021. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:
- detailed Curriculum Vitae
- copy of the eligibility certificates
- motivation letter
- recommendation letter
- contact e-mail address and phone number
- indication of the reference of the competition (as indicated in this announcement)

The applications must be sent by e-mail to: rh@ciimar.up.pt. The applications that do not include all the elements previously indicated will not be considered.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: CIIMAR actively promotes a nondiscrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

Pursuant to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.