



Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Research Centre on Aging (CdRV)

MiniBrain Project under the BMA axis

Guidelines for a New Postdoctoral Fellowship at the CdRV

The CdRV is opening a new \$45,000 postdoctoral fellowship to support its researchers in the Biological Mechanisms of Aging (BMA) axis in developing their MiniBrain project. This one-year fellowship will give the postdoctoral fellow time to apply for the regular funding competitions held by national granting agencies for the year following the fellowship. The fellowship award will be based on the excellence of the application as evaluated by peers.

Definition

The successful candidate must be enrolled as a postdoctoral fellow at the CdRV after December 1, 2015.

Eligibility Criteria

- The work must be related to the development of the MiniBrain project succinctly presented in the fellowship offer by researchers in the BMA axis.

The production of beta-amyloid in Alzheimer's disease is the outcome of various simultaneous or successive insults to the brain. Consequently, identifying the origin of these insults would make it possible to target them with appropriate interventions. Our objective is to build a three-dimensional (3-D) "mini-brain" in a bioreactor that would enable us to simulate these factors singly or in combination so as to elucidate the causes of beta-amyloid production. Primary cell cultures of human neurons, microglia, and astrocytes—with or without immune cells—are performed with various constraints (immune, metabolic, oxidative, and/or infectious). Beta-amyloid production will be studied. Once the factors affecting beta-amyloid production have been identified, we will study the pathways leading to it. Elucidating the molecular pathways leading to beta-amyloid production will serve as the basis for determining the therapeutic target in treating Alzheimer's disease.

- The successful candidate must be recruited and directed by the MiniBrain project lead, in cooperation with the members of the BMA axis as well as of one or several CdRV researchers targeted for the MiniBrain project.
- The successful candidate must have received his or her doctorate from a university other than the Université de Sherbrooke.

Specific Conditions

- The candidate must be enrolled as a postdoctoral fellow at the Université de Sherbrooke before April 15, 2016 (proof to be provided by the candidate).
- If the candidate is a foreign national, he or she must apply for a visa within two weeks of receiving the acceptance letter and must be residing in Quebec at the time the fellowship is given (proof to be provided by the candidate).

Funding for Fiscal 2016

- The postdoctoral fellowship award is \$45,000 for one year.
- The fellowship runs for 12 months from the date of the candidate's entry into function (which must be no later than April 15, 2016).
- If the candidate already holds a scholarship for the current year,* this amount will be deducted from the funding granted by the CdRV and, in EXCEPTIONAL cases, the remainder of the fellowship funds may be rolled over into the following year.

- * The fellowship award does not include salary paid by the supervising advisor from research funds or unspecified grants.

Required Documents

Important: These documents must be provided by the candidate (and not the researcher) and the e-mail time stamp shall serve as proof of the date of document submission.

- Duly completed CdRV grant application
- Letter of motivation
- Canadian Common CV or simplified CV form
- Official doctorate and master's degree transcripts
- Proof of grant or scholarship awards for the last three years
- Notices of articles submitted for publication and editor's notices of articles accepted for publication

Forms can be obtained at: <http://cdrv.csss-iugs.ca/bursaries-grants-and-scholarships>

Evaluation

The evaluation will be conducted by an ad hoc committee appointed by the CdRV director once the applications have been received.

The committee members will be the CdRV director, researchers from the BMA axis, and one of the potential collaborating researchers selected for the MiniBrain project.

Evaluation Criteria

University record (/60):

- Excellence of university record, awards, distinctions (/10)
- Publications related to the field of research (/20)
- Presentations given at national (+) and international (++) conferences (/10)
- Scholarships during graduate education awarded by a peer-reviewed organization (/20)

Research project (/30):

- Added value the BMA axis's development of the MiniBrain project: complementarity and innovation

Clear contribution to research on aging (/10)

Successful Candidate's Commitment

By accepting the award, the candidate commits to:

- Disclose grants and scholarships obtained for the term of the fellowship.
- Enter grant and scholarship competitions held by external funding agencies for the year following the fellowship.
- Submit a copy of applications for competitions held by selected external funding bodies.
- Present his or her research during CdRV scientific events (science day, etc.).
- Acknowledge the CdRV in his or her publications and during oral presentations or poster sessions.

Competition closing date: March 30, 2016 submitted electronically to manon.goyette@usherbrooke.ca

(Please put this in the subject line: MiniBrain postdoctoral fellowship application)