Temporary Postdoctoral position on 'Development of biomaterials based on marine collagen'

12-months engineer contract in the framework of an Interreg Atlantic Area project – '*Blue Organoids for Treatment Selection*' - BOTS

Research Project:

BOTS project is creating novel 3D hydrogel scaffolds from marine biomass. Hydrogels are widely used for 3D cell culture but current hydrogels have major drawbacks. To overcome these problems, hydrogels based on marine biopolymers will be synthesize and derivatize conferring the required biological and physical properties for bioprinting to support the growth of specific cell types. The focus of this project task will be on green extraction of collagen from fish scales.

This position is part of a collaborative project, in the framework of the Interreg Atlantic Area programme, calls *BOTS (Blue Organoids for Treatment Selection)* between 6 research teams from France (UPPA, Pau and UB, Bordeaux), Spain (UPV/EHU, Bilbao), Portugal (UPO, Porto) and Ireland (RCSI Cancer Center, Dublin).

The position includes research, supervision of undergraduate students, write scientific reports and publications, organization of meetings with partners/collaborators and mobility between the different collaborator labs.

Location and Host Lab:

IPREM is a joint Research Unit between the University of Pau and Adour Countries (UPPA) and the CNRS (UMR UPPA/CNRS 5254). IPREM members are interested in the development of fundamental knowledge in physico-chemistry of materials, analytical chemistry and microbiology, in relation to applications concerning the structure of the living, the management of the environment and the functional properties of different classes of materials. In particular, our team activities mainly concern the synthesis and elaboration of marine biopolymer-based materials, their physico-chemical characterization, the their chemoenzymatic synthesis or functionalization, and the understanding of the relationship between their structure and properties.

More information on the institutions and research group is available in the website:

Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour (UPPA), Anglet, France
https://www.univ-pau.fr/fr/index.html

Institute of Analytical Sciences and Physico-Chemistry for Environment and Materials (IPREM)
https://iprem.univ-pau.fr/fr/index.html

Susana Fernandes: https://iprem.univ-pau.fr/fr/iprem/membres/cv_-sfernande004-fr.html

Laurent Rubatat : https://iprem.univ-pau.fr/fr/iprem/membres/cv_-lrubatat-fr.html

Requirements:

- PhD degree in Material Science, Physico-Chemistry of Materials, Chemistry, Polymer Chemistry, Biomaterials.
- Large part of the applicant PhD project and/or postdoc should have been focused on marine collagen based materials.
- A knowledge on chemistry of natural polymers will be a plus.
- The applicant must have a good level in spoken and written English.

Importance will also be placed on personal skills. In this case, we place particular weight on the ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team and a positive attitude towards mobility. The applicant will be responsible for a part of a larger project, and the ability to work independently and to take responsibility will be required.

Location:

This position will be based at UPPA, IPREM in Pau, with short trips to the other locations of the project (Spain, Ireland, Portugal, Bordeaux).

Application:

A person with a PhD obtained not more than two/three years before the end of the application period is particularly eligible for the position. The application should include:

- CV
- Copy of PhD thesis diploma
- Motivation letter (one, or maximum two pages)
- Contact details of two references

The application must be written in French or English.

Send the required documents to:
Susana Fernandes: susana.fernandes@univ-pau.fr
Laurent Rubatat: laurent.rubatat@univ-pau.fr

The application will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Appropriate education and work/research experience in related fields. Candidate motivation, knowledge, scientific maturity and curiosity. Emphasis will also be placed on personal skills.

Selection process:

1. Evaluation of the candidates' application.
2. If selected, the candidate will have 15 min to present her/his CV and project. The presentation will be followed by questions/discussion.

Gross Salary: according to UPPA index before taxes
Starting date: November 2025 or as otherwise agreed.

Type of position: Full-time temporary position for 12 months.

Please submit your application by 30th September 2025