

Doctoral fellowship in neuroendocrinology

Laboratory of neuroendocrinology, GIGA Neurosciences, University of Liege, Belgium

We are seeking a highly motivated PhD student with experience in neurodevelopment or endocrinology to join a FNRS funded project in the research group led by Dr. Anneline Pinson in the laboratory of Neuroendocrinology at GIGA Neurosciences. The candidate will be part of a local laboratory composed of four research groups led by Drs Julie Bakker, Anne-Simone Parent, Charlotte Cornil and Anneline Pinson. The laboratory is part of the GIGA Institute, a major research center in biotechnology where virtually any recent technique applicable to life sciences is available and implemented.

Tasks

Humans are facing a dramatic increase in cognitive and behavioral disorders that cannot be fully explained by genetic factors. Parallel to this increase, populations are exposed to an increasing number of endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs). Thus, environmental factors affecting key milestones during fetal development could be risk factors for neurodevelopmental disorders. Recent evidence support a role in cognitive functions and brain development for hormones known to control reproduction. The ambition of this proposal is to assess whether developmental EDC exposure at environmentally relevant concentrations alters the extra-hypothalamic components of the neuroendocrine system. The candidate will use cutting-edge technologies such as stereotaxic injections, neuronal tracing, live-imaging, tissue clearing or behavioral analyses to decipher the life-long consequences of developmental exposure to EDCs on GnRH neuronal projections, neocortex development and cognitive functions.

Profile:

- The candidate should hold a master degree in Biomedical Sciences, Biology, Neurosciences or a related field. A strong background in neuroendocrinology or neurosciences is preferred.
- A prior experience with transgenic mouse models, stereotaxic injections or imaging techniques is an asset.
- The candidate should be able to work both independently and as part of a team.
- The candidate is reliable, motivated, and has excellent organizational skills
- A prior training and experience with laboratory animals is a plus
- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills are required.

We offer:

- A full-time PhD position (4 years)
- Comprehensive training and development opportunities in an innovative field
- Access to state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge methodologies

Application

Send a curriculum and a motivation letter with a list of at least two contacts for recommendation letters to apinson@uliege.be. Informal inquiries are welcome. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

The University of Liège and the GIGA Institute are committed to fostering diversity and inclusivity and encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds.