



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

The University of Gothenburg tackles society's challenges with diverse knowledge. 37 000 students and 6 000 employees make the university a large and inspiring place to work and study. Strong research and attractive study programmes attract scientists and students from around the world. With new knowledge and new perspectives, the University contributes to a better future.

Postdoctoral fellow in Bacterial Microbiology

Type of employment: Fixed-term employment, 2 years

Extent: 100 %

Location: Institute of Biomedicine, Gothenburg

First day of employment: As agreed

Reference number: PER 2015/477

Two-year full time position within the research group led by Professor Joakim Larsson, Department of Infectious Diseases, Institute for Biomedicine, Sahlgrenska academy at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. The focus of the research group is on antibiotic resistance development, particularly the role of the external environment. The group consists of 1 professor, 1 associate professor, 4 postdoctoral fellows, 3 PhD students, 1 biologist, 2 clinical physicians, 2 amanuenses as well as master students. The group has extensive collaboration with other universities, nationally and internationally. The research is interdisciplinary and has significant funding through e.g. the Swedish Research Councils VR and Formas. For more information please visit

http://biomedicine.gu.se/ominst/avd/infektion/forskare/joakim_larsson. Larsson also leads the Centre for Antibiotic Resistance Research at the University of Gothenburg, involving ca 30 principal investigators from six faculties. Please note that another, similar position as "researcher" is also announced with no special requirements for when the doctoral degree was achieved (PET 2015/397).

Subject area

Bacterial Microbiology

Specific subject description

Most resistance genes found in pathogens today are thought to originate from harmless bacteria in and around us. The primary research focus of the group is to better understand the forces driving this development, particularly how low, environmental concentrations of antibiotics affect processes such as the mobilization of resistance genes, horizontal gene transfer, selection and transmission of resistance between environments. In addition to antibiotics, metals and antibacterial biocides are often able to select for antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The increasing use of antibacterial substances in society, also in hospitals, requires an improved risk assessment. Crucial aspects include the development of assays to assess selective ability in complex communities, defining minimal selective concentrations and co-resistance patterns.

Job assignments

The fellow is expected to primarily conduct studies with the intent to investigate how antibiotics, biocides and metals in the external environment affect the evolution and spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Depending on the competence of the applicant, the work may also relate to projects addressing surveillance of resistance through sewage analyses as well as projects aiming to identify and describe novel resistance factors in various environments. The work is expected to involve aquaria-exposure experiments with bacterial biofilms in the lab, field studies, bacterial cell harvest, isolation of DNA, culturing of bacteria and resistance typing, various molecular biology methods and bioinformatic analyses of DNA sequence data. The fellow is also expected to author/co-author scientific papers.

Eligibility

An achieved doctoral degree is compulsory for a position as postdoctor at Göteborg University. The doctoral thesis shall be in a relevant area according to the specific position stated here. Since a position as postdoctor aims to give new holders of the doctorate the opportunity mainly to strengthen and develop their scholarly proficiency, we aim for those who have a doctoral degree not older than 3 years counting from last date of application.

The qualifications for academic positions are given in Chapter 4, Section 3 - 4 of the Higher Education Ordinance.

Assessment

PhD in relevant area and good scientific output in relation to the time passed since completing PhD. Experience of practical laboratory work with bacteria on the aspect of antibiotic resistance, an in-depth knowledge of molecular biology techniques, experience of bioinformatics analyses of DNA sequence data, excellent communicative skills particularly regarding scientific communication in English, a high degree of independence in the lab, a developed way of critical thinking, documented ability to work successfully in a group, competence profile that complements other group members.

For further information please contact:

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Closing date 2016-01-05

Appointment Procedure

Please apply online. Applications mailed directly to the principal investigator will not count.

The application should contain:

- A cover letter giving a brief description of previous research experience, and a motivation to why you are applying
- A CV including a list of publications
- Proof of completed PhD
- Contact details of two references

The University of Gothenburg promotes equal opportunities, equality and diversity.

Salary is determined on an individual basis.

Applications will be destroyed or returned (upon request) two years after the decision of employment has become final. Applications from the employed and from those who appeal the decision will not be returned.