

Open Call for a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship under the Project 101042912 - BEE_GEMS - ERC-2021-STG

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications to a Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship (BI-PD), within the project 101042912 - BEE_GEMS - ERC-2021-STG, entitled: “Genetic factors Enabling Microbiome Symbioses: Bees as a natural model system”, financed by the European Research Council Executive Agency, with the following conditions:

1. **Duration:** The fellowship duration according to the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#) approved by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT) is 12 months, with the possibility of renewal for a maximum of 3 years. The fellowship contract is expected to start by March 2023, under the exclusiveness regime as required by Research Fellowship Regulation of FCT.

Subject of Activities: The selected candidate will participate in the European Research Council (ERC)-funded project 101042912-BEE_GEMS ERC-2021-STG. The aim of this project is to understand how stable microbial communities form and how their constituent members interact, using the honey bee gut microbiome as a model. Firstly, we will determine how the microbiome influences gene regulation and physiological properties of the host, using transcriptomic, metabolomic and proteomic approaches. Secondly, we will use comparative genomics methods to elucidate the functional variability of gut microbial communities in order to infer the processes behind community assembly and interactions with the host. There will be considerable intellectual freedom for the candidate to develop their own research directions within the scope of the lab.

2. **Scientific Guidance:** The selected candidate will join the Microbial Genomics and Symbiosis Laboratory (<https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/research-groups/wkwong/>, www.kwonglab.com), headed by Dr. Waldan Kwong.

3. **Academic Profile and Admission Requirements:** PhD-holder in informatics, computational biology, biotechnology, genomics, microbiology, evolution & ecology, or related disciplines.

We are looking for candidates:

- Proficient in R, Python, and Unix command-line interfaces;
- Experience & knowledge in bacterial genetics/genomics;
- Experience in one or more of: prokaryotic and eukaryotic genomic and transcriptomic analyses; amplicon sequencing surveys; single-cell RNAseq; metagenomics; proteomics; metabolomics;
- Ability to help with basic bench work (e.g., DNA extractions, library preps) as needed;
- Ability to incorporate principles of microbial ecology and evolution into analysing and interpreting the results of their work;
- Strong initiative, self-motivation, and work ethic;
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively;
- Actively contribute to the intellectual environment of the lab and the institute;
- Prepare and present scientific progress in seminars, conferences, and peer-reviewed publications;
- Work with the PI and institutional resources on professional development and preparation for next career steps;
- Effective verbal and written communication skills in English.

According to point 3 of article 3^o of the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#), the doctoral degree must have been obtained in the three years prior to the date of submission of the fellowship application.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, under the terms of the provisions of article 25.º of Decree-Law n.º 66/2018, of August 16th (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>), which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of n.º 2 of article 4.º of Decree-Law n.º 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act. The jury reserves the right to invite the candidate ranked immediately after to the position in question when the first ranked candidate is not recognized with the academic degree after the aforementioned formalities have been fulfilled.

4. For Portuguese taxpayers: All candidates that where/are currently taxpayers in Portugal are required to present evidence of the fulfillment of their individual obligations towards the Portuguese Tax Authority and Social Security. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered as a criteria for exclusion from the recruitment process.

5. Applicable legislation and Regulation: All candidates must comply with the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#); [Research Fellowship Statutes](#) amended by [Decree n° 123/2019](#) of August 28th; [FCT Legislation and Regulations for Fellowships](#) and the [Decree-Law n.º 66/2018](#), of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

6. Subsidy Month Stipend: 1.900,00€/month according to the table of monthly maintenance allowance amounts set out in Annex I of [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#). The payment will be made by bank transfer. The selected candidate will be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to the Voluntary Social Security contribution.

7. How to submit applications: Interested candidates should send their applications to igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt in a single PDF file, named “**Applicant Name_BI_PD_BEE GEMS**” containing:

- i) Motivation Letter (1 page max);
- ii) Curriculum Vitae (2 pages max);
- iii) Two reference letters indicating the name, email and phone number of the referee.

After a pre-analysis of applications, selected candidates will be invited for an interview.

8. Methods of Selection and Evaluation: The selection procedure shall be as follows: Curriculum (35%), motivation letter (15%), interview and reference letters (50%), if considered necessary by the jury, of the selected candidates.

9. Jury Selection: Chair: Dr. Waldan Kwong, Vowels: Dr. Karina Xavier and Dr. Luís Teixeira. Substitute: Dr. Rodney Eyles.

10. Form of Advertising / Notification of results: The assessment results will be sent to all candidates by email. There will be 10 working days for complaints/appeals after the date of publication of the Selection Minute, through the same application email.

11. Application Period: From 09/01/2023 until the position is filled.

12. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefitted, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, 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.