

## Open Call for a Research Fellowship, under the Project 101042912 - BEE\_GEMS - ERC-2021-STG

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications to a Bachelor's Research Fellowship (BI), under 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, *under the programme Horizon Europe*, with the following conditions:

**1. Duration** The fellowship duration according to the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#) approved by FCT is 6 months and may be renewed for a maximum of 1 year. This limit may be increased with a new fellowship for additional periods not exceeding 1 year in total, in the event of enrolment in a new level of the same course or in another non-degree course. The fellowship contract is expected to start by August 2024, under the exclusiveness regime as required by Research Fellowship Regulation of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT).

**2. Subject of Activities:** The selected candidate will join the Microbial Genomics and Symbiosis Laboratory (<https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/research-groups/wkwong/>, [www.kwonglab.com](http://www.kwonglab.com)), headed by Dr. Waldan Kwong. The MGS lab studies how symbiotic microorganisms affect the hosts with which they are associated with, and how these interactions are mediated. In particular, we are currently investigating how the gut microbial community of honeybees impacts bee physiology and behavior. The candidate will perform experiments to test these impacts as well as potential mechanisms mediating host-microbe interactions. Additionally, there will be scope within this study for the candidate to gain technical experience in Bioinformatics, Molecular Biology, and Microbiology.

**3. Scientific Areas:** Biological Sciences.

**4. Academic Profile and Admission Requirements:** Bachelor degree in life sciences, with experience or background in Molecular Biology and Microbiology. The candidate will develop the project together with members of the MGS lab but will also be expected to exercise independent initiative to carry the study forward. Willing to work with honey bees, including working outdoors with live bees and moving/lifting hive boxes (up to 50 lbs). Must have valid driver's license. Knowledge in microbiology techniques, including growth and maintenance of bacterial cultures and in molecular biology is preferred. Attention to detail, well organized, and ability to keep clear written records. Ability to work both independently and as part of a team. Good written and spoken English level.

According to article 3, point 2 of [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#), the selected candidate must be enrolled in a non-academic degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution.

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 16<sup>th</sup> (<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.

**5. 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.

**6. Applicable legislation and Regulation:** All candidates must comply with the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation; Research Fellowship Statutes](#) amended by [Decree nº 123/2019](#) of August 28<sup>th</sup>; [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)

**7. Subsidy Month Stipend:** 1.085,00 €/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.

**8. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications:** Interested candidates should send their applications to [igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt](mailto:igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt) in a single PDF file, named “**Applicant Name\_ Research Fellowship\_BEE\_GEMS**”, containing: Motivation Letter (2 page max); Curriculum Vitae (2 pages max), two reference letters and proof of degree.

**9. Methods of Selection and Evaluation:** The selection procedure shall be as follows: Curriculum (40%), motivation letter (20%), reference letters (20%). If considered necessary by the jury, the interview of the selected applicants will represent (20%) of the final evaluation.

**10. Jury Selection:** Chairman: Dr. Waldan Kwong. Other members: Dr. Rodney Eyles and Dr. Cláudia Campos. Substitute: Dr. Karina Xavier.

**11. 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.

**12. Application Period:** From 20/07/2024 until the vacancy is filled.

**13. 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.