University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine
Research Specialist in Intestinal Mucosal Immunology

JOB TITLE: Research Specialist – Lennon Laboratory

JOB LOCATION: Philadelphia, PA 19104

JOB SUMMARY: We are seeking a motivated, organized, and energetic Research Technician to help establish a new laboratory at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, continuing the work of a principal investigator, Dr. Elizabeth Lennon, who has relocated to Penn.

You will work in a supportive, team-based atmosphere in a small, growing group dedicated to studying inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), which affects people as well as dogs and cats. We are a comparative and translational laboratory using in vitro, murine, and naturally-occurring canine models of disease. We believe that by studying dogs with IBD, who share our homes, environment, and food, we will be able to discover new treatments for IBD, with the ultimate goal of improving quality of life for people and pets with this debilitating disease: One Health, One Medicine.

Our group is particularly interested in mast cells, best known for their role in allergy and anaphylaxis, but which also function to dampen inflammation. We are investigating their role in tissue repair and wound healing to discover novel treatments for IBD. You would will be responsible for performing and organizing laboratory experiments to more fully define anti-inflammatory and pro-healing properties of mast cells in a cutting-edge research environment based in one of America’s most vibrant, exciting metropolitan hubs.

Our group actively participates in immunology and gastroenterology graduate groups and NIH-funded centers the University of Pennsylvania, including the Immunology Graduate Group and Institute for Immunology, the Cell and Molecular Biology Graduate Group, and the Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Diseases.

The Research Technician will be given the opportunity to lead and contribute to projects, and authorship on scientific manuscripts is expected.
The successful candidate will be able to work independently and will be thorough and efficient in planning and carrying out experimentation. Troubleshooting and redesigning experiments will be expected, and a knowledge of proper experimental controls is necessary. This position requires assisting graduate students and postdoctoral students with their research studies. The successful candidate will have excellent intrapersonal skills and will be comfortable working collaboratively with students, research assistants, and principal investigators.

QUALIFICATIONS:
1. We are looking for an enthusiastic, driven individual who has experience and skills in protein analysis (Western blot, immunofluorescence, ELISA, multicolor flow cytometry), primary cell culture, molecular biology (mRNA isolation, qPCR), and animal handling. Veterinary experience is not necessary.
2. Willingness to receive and process clinical samples for research purposes, including evening and weekend work as needed.
3. Computer literacy. Experience with R Statistical Software is a benefit but is not required.
4. Ability to analyze and troubleshoot experimental conditions.
5. Strong communication and organizational skills, strict attention to detail, and the ability to work independently in a collaborative environment.
6. Bachelor’s degree plus at least one year of experience or equivalent.

SALARY AND BENEFITS:
Your salary will be based on Penn Salary Grade 024/025. Health and other benefits will be provided. This position will be a one-year appointment with annual reappointment based upon adequate performance reviews.

CONTACT:
Applications should include:
1. A Curriculum Vitae, including publications if applicable
2. A letter of intent indicating research interests and career goals

Questions regarding this position should be directed to Dr. Elizabeth Lennon, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences and Advanced Medicine at mlennon@vet.upenn.edu. Applications may be submitted via: http://jobs.hr.upenn.edu/postings/44548

Review of applications will begin on April 8, 2019, and will continue until the position is filled.