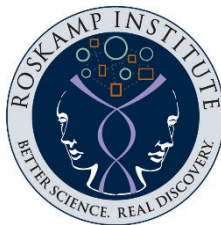


Open Ph.D. Position in Neuroscience

Roskamp Institute - Sarasota, FL

January 8, 2016 Application Deadline.



The Open
University

The doctoral position is funded as a joint program between industry and The Roskamp institute.

The Position

The Roskamp Institute, in partnership with the Open University in the UK, offers a 3-4 year doctoral degree in Neuroscience. The program involves no formal coursework; successful applicants will be hands-on at the laboratory bench throughout their entire thesis research, under the supervision and direction of Institute scientists. Consequently, successful applicants will be of the highest caliber, self-motivating and capable of identifying and undertaking the theoretical research necessary to complement their laboratory activities. There is only one Ph.D. studentship position currently available.

The Project

The aim of this project is to formulate enzymes with naturally occurring small molecules as activity enhancers. Such formulations, will include optimal combinations of several enzymes whose action in the long term may selectively improve or restore a beneficial microbiome in the host. The project will include

1. *In silico* identification of allosteric sites for enzymes
2. Computational screening of natural compound libraries
3. Development or adaptation of existing enzymatic assays to facilitate screening
4. Testing of new formulations with allosteric enhancers
5. *In vivo* evaluation of the effects of new formulations on a mouse host microbiome.

Who you are

Prospective candidate for admission to the Ph.D. program must have:

- For US students: A Master's degree in a biological sciences field or a Bachelor's degree plus either one year of post-graduate full-time laboratory research at the Roskamp Institute or two years of post-graduate full-time laboratory research with another institution and demonstrated productivity.
- For UK students: A Bachelor's degree of class 2.1 or higher in a biological sciences field.
- For students from other countries: equivalency to either UK or US student requirements as stated above.
- Experience in molecular biology, developing enzyme assays and *in silico* drug screening will be beneficial.
- Non-native English speakers should have a TOEFL score in the upper percentile with an emphasis on spoken and listening section from paper-based or web-based tests.

Funding Notice

The students will be paid as research assistants and all fees associated with enrollment will be paid by The Roskamp Institute. Benefits will include health, dental, vision insurance and 401K.

Who we are

The Roskamp Institute is devoted to understanding the causes of, and finding the cures for, neuropsychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders and addictions. The Institute's Directors were involved in the discovery of the first known genetic causes of Alzheimer's disease, and the Alzheimer's research program has now reached the point of advancing novel therapeutics into clinical trials in human patients. Such is the goal for all of the Institute's research programs. The Institute utilizes a broad range of scientific approaches to investigate Alzheimer's disease, Traumatic Brain Injury, Gulf War Illness, Drug Addiction, Cancer, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Multiple Sclerosis. Scientists in the Roskamp Institute are funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the Veteran's Administration, the Alzheimer's Association, the American Health Assistance Foundation, the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation and the Roskamp Foundation. Roskamp Institute scientists come from all around the world with expertise in a wide range of disciplines including Molecular and Cellular Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Genetics, Proteomics, Genomics, Mass Spectrometry, Pathology and Chemistry. The Institute's work is published in top tier journals such as Neurology, Neuroscience, Angiogenesis, Brain Research, Molecular Medicine, Nature Neuroscience and Science.

Where we are

The Roskamp Institute is located in sunny Sarasota which is a tropical beach paradise located on the Gulf of Mexico in Florida. Sarasota was chosen as America's Best Small City by CNN/Money Magazine due to the combination of a small town atmosphere with big city amenities such as shopping/outlet malls, 5-star restaurants, opera and theaters. Sarasota averages 361 days of sunshine a year, and boasts 35 miles of beachfront, including Siesta Key Beach, which has some of the whitest and finest sand in the world and has been ranked at the number one beach in the United States. Several other academic institutions such as New College of Florida, State College of Florida, University of South Florida and Ringling College of Art and Design are also located in Sarasota, providing a strong student culture for academic and leisure pursuits.

Contact:

For informal enquiries about this position please contact phdapplication@roskampinstitute.net

How to apply:

Apply using the application form from our website at http://www.rfdn.org/pdf/OU_application_form_2015.pdf

Applicants for the program will be required to complete the following application form and submit it to the Roskamp Institute Program Administrator who will screen it for eligibility. Eligible applications will be reviewed by the Roskamp Institute Research Degrees Coordinator and by the Roskamp Institute Admissions Committee. Competitive applications will be selected for an interview in person or by tele/video conference.

The Admission process will weigh many factors including the applicant's scholastic record, prior performance in laboratory research, letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, and ultimately their presentation and performance in the personal interview.

The Committee will identify successful applicants who will then be nominated for acceptance into the program. Nominations will be submitted to the Open University Life and Biomolecular Sciences Committee for consideration and approval.

Successful candidates will be registered with The Open University in the United Kingdom.