

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	University Assistant (post doc) – Peptide Chemist
Organisation Unit:	Department of Chemistry, Institute of Biological Chemistry, Neuropeptide Research Group led by A/Prof Muttenthaler
Type of Employment:	Full-time (40 h) or part-time (>20 h)
Further Information:	Position open until filled Possible start date October 2017 Fixed-term of 1 year with possibility of performance-based extension

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

Open to new ideas. Since 1365. The University of Vienna (15 faculties, 4 centres, >150 fields of study, ~9,500 members of staff, >90,000 students) is a research university with high international visibility and a wide range of degree programs. The University of Vienna is committed to fundamental and applied research, research-led teaching, career development for young researchers and to a dialogue with economy and society. Appointments of high quality researchers is an important strategy of the University of Vienna to contribute to the education of future generations and to the society's ability to innovate.

Organisational Environment

The **Department of Chemistry** with its young and diverse faculty offers a highly attractive environment for young researchers from around the world starting at the level of PhD students and postdocs towards junior group leaders that establish their own research field here. It is one of the largest postgraduate training centres in Austria and this highly intellectual and well-equipped environment is well complemented by strong career development programs of the University of Vienna and other research organisations in Vienna.

The advertised position will be part of **Neuropeptide Research Group at the Institute of Biological Chemistry**. The Institute of Biological Chemistry is a centre for peptide and protein chemistry established in 2011. It is part of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Vienna with a strong link to the Medical University of Vienna (Centre for Physiology and Pharmacology), the Max F. Perutz Laboratories with their focus on Molecular and Structural Biology, and the Department of Food Chemistry and Toxicology. Together these departments form an outstanding environment for research at the interface of synthetic chemistry, molecular biology, pharmacology and medicine.

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A postdoctoral fellow with strong experience in peptide and medicinal chemistry, chemical biology and molecular pharmacology is sought to join the Neuropeptide Research Group at the Institute of Biological Chemistry at the University of Vienna. The group is focused on the development and characterisation of molecular probes and therapeutic lead ligands to investigate and treat gastrointestinal disorders such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome and Inflammatory Bowel Disease. The successful applicant will be responsible for the design, chemical synthesis and biophysical / pharmacological characterisation of these peptide-based ligands.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research Duties

- Synthesis of peptides, peptide mimetics and organic building blocks
- Pharmacological and biophysical characterisation of peptide ligands
- Structure-activity relationship studies of molecular probes and therapeutic leads
- Preparation of research reports, manuscripts for publications and oral presentations
- Supervision and training of students and staff members
- Liaising with group leader and team members to promote the achievement of immediate project goals.

Administrative Duties

- Support with administrative tasks, teaching and grant applications
- Maintenance of an accurate lab book
- Attendance and participation at research meetings
- Chemical purchases and equipment maintenance
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor

Organisational Relationships

The position reports to A/Professor Markus Muttenthaler.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in the area of synthetic chemistry, bioactive peptides, chemical biology
- Experience in peptide synthesis
- Experience in peptide structure-activity relationships
- Experience with different types of mass spectrometry
- Well-developed laboratory and problem-solving skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues and across disciplines
- Ability to work independently on chemical research projects
- Ability to write research manuscripts and grant/fellowship applications
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English

Desirable

- Experience in medicinal chemistry
- Experience in cell-culture handling
- Experience in peptide structure determination by NMR
- Experience in GPCR pharmacology and IP-1, cAMP and/or FLIPR assays
- Ability to provide responsible support of more junior staff and students
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in German

Please send your application package (cover letter, CV, contact details of two referees, statement addressing the selection criteria) directly to markus.muttenthaler@univie.ac.at with “Application for University Assistant (post doc) – Peptide Chemist” in the subject line.

The University pursues a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity (<http://diversity.univie.ac.at/>). The University lays special emphasis on increasing the number of women in senior and in academic positions. Given equal qualifications, preference will be given to female applicants.