



JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW

(Full-time, 3 Year contract)

Centre for Lung Infection and Immunity
Division of Pulmonology | Department of Medicine
Faculty of Health Sciences

Applicants are invited to apply for a University Research Committee (URC)-funded junior research fellow (JRF) position at the Centre for Lung Infection and Immunity, Division of Pulmonology, Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town. The Centre has an extensive track record of high-quality publications and high calibre candidates are encouraged to apply.

The CLII conducts clinical and basic science research into several aspect of tuberculosis (TB) including (i) Novel technologies and approaches for the diagnosis of TB (ii) Mechanisms of drug resistance and novel diagnostic and treatment strategies to prevent its development (iii) TB transmission in the community through both active and passive case finding strategies. The JRF will be involved in one of these projects and will be responsible for performing relevant laboratory benchwork experiments with a particular focus on genomics, day-to-day management of the project, liaising with collaborators, data analysis, and the preparation and writing of progress reports, grants and manuscripts for publication. The candidate will also have the opportunity to co-supervise postgraduate students.

Requirements:

- PhD in relevant discipline (Immunology, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Medicine)
- Post-doctoral experience (preferably 2 years) in tuberculosis research, preferably in areas of diagnostics or drug specifically related to next generation sequencing (NGS) technologies
- Publications in internationally recognized, peer-reviewed journals.
- Has not held any previous permanent academic posts. This is a condition of funding.
- Experience in research grant applications and manuscript writing.
- Excellent communication (oral and writing), interpersonal, planning and organizational skills.
- Ability to work effectively individually or as part of a team
- A valid South African work permit (if not South African)

The following will be advantageous:

- Experience and training in BSL 3 laboratory work.
- Hands-on experience in next generation sequencing techniques including sample preparation, processing and data analysis using human biological samples
- Experience in research project management or laboratory supervision
- Experience in data management, including working with databases, in addition to statistical packages
- Experience in presenting at national and international academic meetings.
- Experience in liaising with international researchers / stakeholders.

Responsibilities:

- Initiate and direct research projects, taking responsibility for all areas of the research endeavour.
- Prepare and write research proposals for grant funding applications
- Prepare and write manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals
- Draft and submit protocols for ethics review and grant agencies' support.
- Coordinate with national and international collaborating CLII research sites.
- Be involved in the development and design of studies and conducting of laboratory research focused on diagnostics, drug resistance or transmission of TB
- Contribute to other research projects that the CLII and its collaborators are conducting in TB-related research.
- Prepare and write progress report to funders and other relevant bodies
- Supervise postgraduate students engaged in PhD/ Master's degrees.
- Contribute to building and sustaining all aspects of the CLII (the CLII labs are based at Groote Schuur Hospital)

The JRF will be appointed on a three-year contract as a staff member on academic conditions of service during the tenure of the award to undertake research at UCT. The annual cost of employment, including benefits is between R513 266 and R711 230. Continuation of funds in subsequent years is dependent on satisfactory progress of the Junior Research Fellow and availability of funds.

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms Tracy Moore at recruitment05@uct.ac.za

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Motivation letter that speaks to the specific requirements of the position
- Curriculum Vitae (CV), and
- A copy of your most recent publication and summary of your role (e.g. performed experiments, writing of manuscript, etc)

Please ensure the title and reference number are indicated in the subject line.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and may be required to undergo a competency test.

The successful applicant must be prepared to comply with the URC's conditions of the grant and with UCT's approved policies and practices for academic staff.

Telephone: 021 650 5405

Website: <https://lunginstitute.co.za/liiu/>

Reference number: E220330

Closing date: 13 September 2022

UCT is a designated employer and is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity, and redress in achieving its equity targets in accordance with the Employment Equity Plan of the University and its Employment Equity goals and targets. Preference will be given to candidates from the under-represented designated groups including candidates with disabilities. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at www.hr.uct.ac.za/hr/policies/employ_equity

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.