



POSTDOC – SYNTHETIC CHEMIST

Position Title:	Postdoc – Synthetic Chemist
Organisation Unit:	Department of Chemistry Institute of Biological Chemistry Neuropeptide Research Group (A/Prof. Muttenthaler)
Type of Employment:	Part-time (>20h) or full-time (40h)
Further Information:	Applications accepted until position filled www.neuropeptidelab.com

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 complemented by strong career development programs of the University of Vienna and other research organisations in Vienna.

The advertised position will be part of the **Neuropeptide Research Group at the Institute of Biological Chemistry**. The Institute of Biological Chemistry is a centre for peptide and protein chemistry and 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.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

We seek a talented postdoctoral fellow with strong experience in the areas of synthetic chemistry (organic, peptide, medicinal), process chemistry, biotechnology and/or chemical biology to join the Neuropeptide Research Lab at the Institute of Biological Chemistry at the University of Vienna. The group focuses on the exploration of Nature's biodiversity to develop advanced molecular probes and discover therapeutic leads for innovations in pain, cancer, gut disorders and neurodegenerative diseases. The successful applicant will be involved in method and process development to efficiently produce modified/unnatural amino acids. The successful applicant will work within a multidisciplinary team with the long-term aim of establishing a spin-off company for large scale-production.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research Duties

- Method development for the production of modified amino acids for SPPS
- Multistep synthesis, chemical modification and purification of amino acids
- Production process optimisation and scale-up to industry standards
- Method development for analytical and purification HPLC methods
- Supervision and training of students and staff members
- Working together with team members to timely achieve project objectives
- Preparation of research reports and oral presentations

Other Duties

- Support with administrative tasks
- Participation at research meetings and maintenance of an accurate lab book
- Equipment maintenance and management
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor

Organisational Relationships

The position reports to A/Prof. Markus Muttenthaler and Dr. Predrag Kalaba

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in the areas of Synthetic Chemistry, Biotechnology, Biochemistry or Chemical Biology
- Experience in synthetic chemistry (multistep synthesis, organic/peptide/medicinal chemistry), compound purification and characterisation
- Experience with RP-HPLC, FPLC, MS and NMR
- Well-developed laboratory and problem-solving skills and good publication track record
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues and across disciplines
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English

Desirable

- Experience with amino acid / peptide synthesis and characterisation
- Experience with (peptide/protein) structure determination by NMR
- Experience with recombinant protein expression and protein engineering

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Please email your application package (cover letter, CV, statement addressing the individual selection criteria, and contact details of two referees) to markus.muttenthaler@univie.ac.at and predrag.kalaba@univie.ac.at with 'Application for Postdoc – Chemist' in the email subject line.