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Are you passionate about engineering and repairing life? Inventing technologies and editing the genome? The Hsu Lab at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, CA (http://hsu.salk.edu) is looking for a research associate to join the family.

We work at the intersection of bioengineering, genomics, and neuroscience to develop precision genetic therapies. Join an interdisciplinary team of scientists developing and applying technologies for genome and transcriptional engineering in neuroscience and other complex genetic diseases!

Position Description:
This position is part of a small team to establish and characterize stem cell-derived models of neurodegenerative disease (i.e. Alzheimer's disease) and contribute to systematic, high-throughput experiments designed to identify new candidate genes relevant in disease pathology. You will execute high-throughput lentiviral genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 screens, including virus production and transduction of cultured stem cells, neurons and astrocytes.

Responsibilities include: cell line, primary cell, and stem cell culture; molecular biology and high-throughput screening; next-generation sequencing and data analysis.

We are looking for a passionate and scientifically motivated person with the ability to learn new skills and concepts quickly under personal guidance, and then execute experiments independently. Critical analysis of your research and strong communication skills are vital. Come join a fun, motivated research group that enjoys doing science and making discoveries!

Experience:

Required:
- Bachelor's degree in a life science related field
- 1-2+ years of research experience
- Significant experience with mammalian tissue culture
- Manage quantitative aspects of cell-based experiments. Examples: accurate cell plating, growth rate tracking, calculation of transduction efficiencies.
- Willingness and ability to work with sensitive cells requiring keen attention to detail and care, including human embryonic stem cells and neurons

Preferred:
- Prior experience with sensitive mammalian cells including stem cells or primary cells
- Experience with molecular biology. Examples: PCR, plasmid purification, genomic DNA purification, RNA purification, qPCR
- Prior experience with production, titration, and application of lentiviral vectors.
- Neuroscience and/or genetics background
- Interest in computational biology

Special Requirements:
- Must be willing to work an adjusted schedule to support research needs
- Must be willing to work in an animal-related research environment
- Must be willing to work with human embryonic stem cells
- Successful completion of the Institute's background investigation

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About the Salk
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies is one of the world's preeminent basic research institutions, where internationally renowned faculty probes fundamental life science questions in a unique, collaborative and creative environment. Focused both on discovery and on mentoring future generations of researchers, Salk scientists make groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of cancer, aging, Alzheimer's, diabetes and infectious diseases by studying neuroscience, genetics, cell and plant biology, and related disciplines.

Faculty achievements have been recognized with numerous honors, including Nobel Prizes and memberships in the National Academy of Sciences. Founded in 1960 by polio vaccine pioneer Jonas Salk, MD, the Institute is an independent nonprofit organization and architectural landmark.

Overlooking the Pacific Ocean in La Jolla, the Salk Institute offers a warm, collegial and collaborative work environment, where employees enjoy a generous benefits program. Social activities on campus encourage interaction as a community.

How to Apply
Please submit your completed application including CV and references to patrick@salk.edu.
Payment is according to the Salk Institute pay scale.