

COMPARATIVE SELECTION FOR N. 1 FIXED TERM JUNIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE – ART. 24, PARAG. 3, LETTER A) OF LAW NO. 240 DATED 30 DECEMBER 2010 – FULL TIME - THREE-YEAR TERM
(DDG register no. 510/2018 - 84413, dated 05.06.2018)

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECNOLOGIE MEDICHE

n. 1 POSITION

Academic recruitment field: 05/E1 General Biochemistry

Academic discipline: BIO/10 Biochemistry

Research Project:

"Decoding biological functions of sulfated glycosaminoglycans for their development as tumor targets"

Research activities

Aim of the project is studying the role of heparan sulfate proteoglycans in cancer cells. Prof. Bracci's group produced branched synthetic peptides, named NT4, that selectively recognize cells and tissues from different human cancers and are currently studied as possible cancer selective theranostics. The basis of NT4 cancer selectivity resides in its specific binding to sulfated glycosaminoglycans (GAG), which are extremely over-expressed in cancer. Availability of sulfated GAG selective ligands allows a translational research, which is aimed at both developing cancer selective targeting agents for cancer therapy and imaging and at studying the scarcely clarified molecular basis of HSPF role in cancer cell differentiation proliferation migration and invasiveness.

Project activity:

The present project will be aimed at:

1. use the GAG-specific NT4 peptide as a tool to enlighten the role of sulfated GAGs in cancer cell differentiation, proliferation, migration and invasiveness
2. test NT4 peptide in *in vitro* and *in vivo* models of angiogenesis and cancer metastasis
3. exploit the high cancer selectivity of NT4 peptides for selective cancer imaging and therapy.

The project requires documented research experience in biomedical application of peptides

Hours of classroom teaching each academic year: 60

Foreign requested language: ENGLISH - Level of proficiency: Good

Maximum of scientific publications: 25

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications for the comparative selection procedure are accepted from candidates holding a PhD or equivalent completed in Italy or abroad, or a diploma of medical specialization in the relevant area(s). In this case the PhD or equivalent qualification constitutes an advantage.



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Applications are also accepted from non-EU citizens who meet the admission requirements stated above.

In relation to qualifications obtained abroad, it is necessary to attach the above-mentioned academic equivalence of the educational qualification in accordance with art 38 of Legislative Decree no 165/2001, or the certificate of equipollence with the PhD title in accordance with Italian University regulations issued pursuant to Paragraph 74 of Presidential Decree 382/1980, or the application for the request of the equivalence/equipollence certificate.

In the latter case, applicants will be provisionally admitted to the call, it being understood that the academic equivalence/equipollence certificate must be in their possession at the time of recruitment.

Candidates must be in possession of the requirements for admission to the selection procedure by the deadline of this call.

All candidates are admitted to the selection procedure conditionally, reserving the right to verify that they meet the requirements for admission to the selection procedure. The administration can, at any time and with justifiable reason, exclude candidates who fail to meet the selection requirements.

Applications cannot be accepted from the following people: retired or currently employed full or associate University professors or researchers; those who have a relationship of consanguinity or affinity up to and including the fourth degree with a professor employed at the Department proposing the activation of the contract, or with the Rector, the Registrar or a member of the University Council.

Application Procedure

Applications for admission to the procedures and the documents, **in pdf**, indicated below must be lodged by certified email to rettore@pec.unisipec.it or email to concorsi@unisi.it within 30 days starting **the day after** the publication of this call in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana*.

Proof of receipt will be considered as: for applications sent by certified email (PEC) rettore@pec.unisipec.it - the date of the delivery receipt sent automatically by the system; for those sent by email: concorsi@unisi.it, the date of the University terminal that receives them. The University administration declines any responsibility for non-receipt of applications due to third party liability. To check whether an application has been received and is deemed complete, candidates can contact the University's *Servizio Concorsi e Procedimenti Elettorali* (tel. + 39 0577 235060 - 235059). Applications must be accompanied by a copy of the candidate's identity document under art. 38 of Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000.

Applications must be compiled according the enclosed model (Annex A), providing all the information required.

Candidates must enclose with the application (**PDF format**):

- scientific publications and its signed list;
- a signed curriculum vitae
- Declaration in lieu of certification (Annex B)
- copy of the candidate's identity document.



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Publications must be submitted in the original language which, if other than English, French, German and Spanish, must be translated into one of said languages. The translated texts must be submitted as a certified true typed copy as required by current regulations.

Documents written in a foreign language other than English, French, German and Spanish, must be accompanied by an Italian translation, certified as true to the original text by the competent diplomatic or consular representation, or by an official translator.

EXAMINING COMMISSION

The Examining Commission is composed of three full professors or researchers (including one from outside the University of Siena) belonging to the academic recruitment field or to a academic discipline in the same group of academic recruitment fields.

Prior to the start of the selection, the candidate must declare under his/her own responsibility, pursuant to article 7 of the University Code of Ethics, that he/she does not have a relationship of consanguinity or affinity up to and including the fourth degree with any member of the Committee, and that the Committee does not include his/her spouse or partner or any persons with whom he/she has business relations

EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATIONS, PUBLIC INTERVIEW AND ORAL EXAM

The selection is made by through a preliminary evaluation of candidates and a reasoned analytical judgment of their academic qualifications, curriculum and scientific productivity, including their doctoral thesis, if applicable, based on the criteria and parameters specified in Ministerial Decree 243 dated 25.05.2011 (Annex C).

Following the preliminary evaluation, the top 10 to 20 per cent of the most merit-worthy candidates, and in any case no less than six, will be admitted to a public interview with the Commission concerning their qualifications and scientific work. If only six or less candidates apply, all of them will be admitted to the interview.

On the same occasion as the interview, candidates will be required to take an oral exam in a foreign Language, to ascertain their proficiency, as declared in their academic qualifications. Candidates who do not pass the oral exam are not considered eligible.

Should the candidates be foreign nationals, they must demonstrate an adequate knowledge of the Italian language during the interview.

Following the interview, a score is given to the qualifications and each publication presented by the candidates who have passed the oral exam, according to criteria established in advance by the Commission itself.

The Commission writes up a report at the end of each individual meeting.

A notice inviting candidates for the interview and oral exam will be sent to the individual candidates at least fifteen days before the date of the interview and exam. This notice need not be given fifteen days in advance if all candidates admitted to the selection provide their explicit written consent.

Candidates must bring their identity document.

EU nationals must bring their passport or identity document issued by their country of origin. Candidates from non-EU countries must only bring their passport.

RANKING LIST AND PROPOSAL OF EMPLOYMENT

Upon completion of the selection procedure, the Commission draws up a ranking list of eligible candidates. This list is valid for two years.



CONTRACT AND ACTIVITIES

The successful candidate will be offered a full time three-year contract. The contract can be renewed only once for a two-year period, subject to the availability of financial resources as well as a positive evaluation of the teaching and research carried out. This evaluation will be made in accordance with art. 9-bis university's regulations concerning fixed-term junior research associates.

The University will pay for insurance against accidents and third party liability.

The total annual commitment to teaching, supplementary teaching and student support is equivalent to 350 hours; for the purposes of reporting on the research project, the research, supplementary teaching and student support together are figuratively equal to 1500 each year.

In the case of public funding, the contract will be terminated should the funding not be received. The trial period lasts three months.

INCOMPATIBILITY AND OTHER COMMITMENTS

The research contract is not compatible with the following:

- any other contract of employment with a public or private body;
- research grants from other Universities;
- teaching contracts regulated by the relevant provisions in force;
- doctoral or post-doctoral research grants or, in general, any grant or scholarship for any purpose awarded by the University or any third party;

PUBLICATION

This call and the summary in English are published on the University's Albo on line, on the web page at the following address: <http://www.unisi.it/ateneo/concorsi>, on the website of the Ministry for Education, University and Research (www.miur.it) and on the European Union portal (<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>).

Date digital signature

Director General
Emanuele Fidora

Procedure manager
Alessandro Balducci

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Annex – A
- 2 Annex – B
- 3 Annex C