The Department of Biomolecular Engineering (https://www.soe.ucsc.edu/departments/biomolecular-engineering) at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) invites applications for the position of Research Specialist in Protein Chemistry/Process Development, under the direction of PI Phillip Berman. The selected candidate will join a well-funded research team focused on the purification and characterization of antigens that could be included in candidate AIDS vaccines. The primary responsibilities will involve methods development for the purification and characterization of wild-type and mutant HIV envelope proteins, and antibodies from mammalian cell culture media using a variety of chromatographic methods. Characterization studies will involve analysis of physical properties (e.g. oligomerization, net charge, disulfide bonding, and glycosylation) as well as functional properties (receptor binding, antibody binding, epitope mapping, and sensitivity to proteolysis). The successful candidate will be expected to create SOPs for protein purification that can be included in scientific publications, technical reports, and technology transfer documents. The selected candidate must be able to work accurately with close attention to detail; have good organization, time management, and problem-solving skills; and possess strong communication skills.

RANK: Associate Specialist, Full Specialist (see rank qualifications: http://apo.ucsc.edu/policy/capm/602.330.html)

SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor’s degree in biological sciences, or related field. At least six years of relevant post-baccalaureate lab experience in a corporate or academic setting. Demonstrated laboratory experience in the purification of recombinant glycoproteins (in the tens of milligrams to tens of gram range) from mammalian cells. Demonstrated experience using the AKTA platform for ion-exchange chromatography, size exclusion chromatography. Demonstrated experience in the detection of protein expression by gel electrophoresis, immunoblotting, ELISA, and/or fluorescence immunoassay (FIA). A demonstrated record of scientific writing in the English language as indicated by authorship/co-authorship of scientific papers published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, patents and/or technical reports.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: A Master’s or doctoral degree (Ph.D. or M.D.) in biological sciences or related field. Two years of postdoctoral training in biological sciences or related field. Experience in the purification of recombinant proteins and/or monoclonal antibodies by affinity chromatography. Experience with multiple methods of filtration, for particle removal, buffer exchange, and concentration of dilute protein solutions is desired. Experience in analytical methods such as surface plasmin resonance (SPR) for the determination of protein binding affinities, HPLC required for peptide mapping, and/or carbohydrate analysis. Previous biotech experience in the development of a cGMP compliant protein recovery process to support the Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls section of an Investigational New Drug Application is highly desired.

POSITION AVAILABLE: As soon as possible after closing date

TERM OF APPOINTMENT: The initial appointment is for six months, with the possibility of reappointment. Should the hiring unit propose reappointment; a review to assess performance will be conducted. Reappointment is also contingent upon availability of funding.

TO APPLY: Applications are accepted via the UCSC Academic Recruit online system, and must include a letter of application addressing how you meet the qualifications, curriculum vitae (include a list of any scientific publications), and three confidential letters of recommendation*. Documents/materials must be submitted as PDF files. In-person interviews will be held at UCSC. Travel expenses are the responsibility of the applicant.

APPLY AT https://recruit.ucsc.edu/apply/JPF00456

Refer to Position #JPF00456-17T in all correspondence.

*All letters will be treated as confidential per University of California policy and California state law. For any reference letter provided via a third party (i.e., dossier service, career center), direct the author to UCSC’s confidentiality statement at http://apo.ucsc.edu/confstm.htm.

CLOSING DATE: Review of applications will begin on June 27, 2017. To ensure full consideration, applications should be complete [and letters of recommendation received] by this date. The position will remain open until filled, but not later than June 30, 2018.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, or protected veteran status. UC Santa Cruz is committed to excellence through diversity and strives to establish a climate that welcomes, celebrates, and promotes respect for the contributions of all students and employees. Inquiries regarding the University’s equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to: Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064; (831) 459-2686. Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UCSC positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available here or from the Academic Personnel Office (APO) at (831) 459-4300. UCSC is a smoke & tobacco-free campus. If you need accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Academic Personnel Office at apo@ucsc.edu (831) 459-4300.