**European Research Institute for the Biology of Ageing (ERIBA) in Groningen, The Netherlands**

**PhD Student: Guardians of intrinsically disordered proteins**

Vacancy number: …………………..

The European Research Institute for the Biology of Aging (ERIBA) is a research institute at the University Medical Centre Groningen (UMCG). ERIBA aims to discover molecular mechanisms of ageing that can be used as targets to prevent or delay age-related diseases. Our research teams are working with different model systems and technology platforms and share their knowledge and expertise to accelerate discoveries. ERIBA is part of the central UMCG campus, located in a vibrant student town in the northern Netherlands. PhD students are enrolled in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences of the University of Groningen.

**The Cellular Biochemistry lab in ERIBA is looking for an enthusiastic and ambitious PhD candidate with an** i**nterest in cross disciplinary research**

While control of *dis*order of proteins plays a crucial role in the physiology of cells, we do not understand how cells guard the transitions between different phases of intrinsically disordered proteins (IDPs), liquid, gel or amyloid. A striking finding in recent years is that nuclear transport factors can protect against toxicity from disease-related IDPs. Vice versa, chaperones have been found to act on nuclear transport. With a consortium of experts on the nuclear pore complex, chaperones and aggregation pathology, we aim to elucidate how nuclear transport receptors and chaperones act as guardians of IDPs to ensure proper nuclear pore complex function and to protect against pathological aggregation. With this consortium, we are in a unique position to make a crucial step forward as we can address the problem through a complementary set of *in silico, in vitro,* and *in vivo* approaches. The knowledge obtained is expected to be vital to the understanding of neurodegenerative diseases caused by IDPs.

Qualifications:

MSc in bio-molecular sciences, and expertise in the areas of molecular biology and biochemistry

You are a team player, highly motivated, self-driven, and have a high level of written and spoken **English.**

You are expected to independently conduct a research project embedded in the Cellular Biochemistry group o[f Prof. Liesbeth Veenhoff](https://eriba.umcg.nl/people/liesbeth-veenhoff/) at [ERIBA](https://eriba.umcg.nl/) in Groningen, and to collaborate with other scientists in the consortium (the Molecular Cell Biology groups of [Prof. Harm Kampinga](http://bscs.umcg.nl/en/people/harm-kampinga/) and [Dr. Steven Bergink](http://bscs.umcg.nl/en/groups/bergink-group/) at [BSCS-UMCG](http://bscs.umcg.nl/en/), Computational Biophysics group of [Prof. Patrick Onck](https://www.rug.nl/research/zernike/micromechanics/onck-group/) at [ZIAM](https://www.rug.nl/research/zernike/?lang=en) and the Biophysics group of [Prof. Cees Dekker](https://ceesdekkerlab.nl/) at [the Kavli Institute](http://kavli.tudelft.nl/).

Positions are for 4 years with a one-year trial period.

**We offer:**

* A research project aimed at impact at the highest international level.
* Mentoring, supervision and training.
* Access to state-of-the art infrastructure.
* A stimulating international research environment.
* A competitive salary

**Eligibility criteria**

* The applicants can be of any nationality
* The candidate should have the required qualifications and experience for the position
* Applicants should be proficient in written and spoken English.

**More information**

For more information about this vacancy you may contact:

Prof. Liesbeth Veenhoff, Team leader, ERIBA; email l.m.veenhoff@rug.nl

Information about the host lab: <http://eriba.umcg.nl/groups/cellular-biochemistry/>

Information about ERIBA: <http://eriba.umcg.nl/>

Information about Groningen: <http://portal.groningen.nl/en>

**How to apply**

Please mail your motivation letter and a resume to. Liesbeth Veenhoff, Team leader, ERIBA; email l.m.veenhoff@rug.nl

Full applications including a resume and a motivation letter will receive consideration if received before September 15th 2020, interviews are between the 22th and 30th of September