Postdoctoral position on Mechanical Control of Zebrafish Embryonic Development

We are seeking outstanding postdoctoral candidates to join the Campas lab (Morphogenesis and Self-organization of Living Matter lab) at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). Our group combines theoretical and experimental approaches to study the spatiotemporal control of tissue mechanics during morphogenesis, using zebrafish as model organism. We have recently developed two microdroplet-based techniques that enable direct measurements of forces and mechanical properties (such as stiffness and fluidity) within developing 3D tissues (Campàs et al., Nature Methods, 2014; Serwane et al., Nature Methods, 2017), as well as allowing the application of controlled forces. Using these techniques, we are studying the role of mechanics in tissue and organ morphogenesis, as well as how mechanical cues affect cell behavior in developing embryos.

We are specifically seeking independent, passionate, and motivated applicants for a postdoctoral position to work on the role of mechanical cues in zebrafish embryonic development. The candidate will be able to work in a collaborative manner with a highly interdisciplinary group of researchers, including theoretical physicists and engineers. A Ph.D. in the biological sciences or related fields, and at least 3 years of laboratory research experience in zebrafish developmental biology, are required. Experience in quantitative biology or biophysics, in addition to experience in zebrafish development, will be considered positively.

This is a renewable, two-year position with full benefits, reappointed annually according to the performance of the candidate. Salary will be competitive and dependent on the level of experience of the candidate. Applicants should email a CV and a description of research interests to Prof. Campas (campas@engineering.ucsb.edu), and should also arrange for at least two references to submit letters of recommendation of their behalf. Applications submitted by August 31st, 2017 will receive priority consideration, but the position will remain open until filled. Start date is flexible.

The University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) provides an exceptional, interdisciplinary and collaborative environment for scientists interested in quantitative biology and systems biology. Researchers at UCSB enjoy regular visits from world-leading scientists and workshops on quantitative biology and biophysics through the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, in addition to exposure to the Summer School on Quantitative Biology.

Cordially,

Otger Campas