Department head and senior group leader position

PHYSICO-CHIMIE CURIE - Institut Curie - Paris, France

Institut Curie is composed of a hospital and a world-class multidisciplinary research center combining research in cell biology, developmental biology, genetics, epigenetics, immunology, the physics of living matter, and organic and medicinal chemistry. It includes over 3,000 researchers, physicians, clinicians, technicians and administrative staff working on three sites: Paris, Orsay and Saint-Cloud. The institute facilities include advanced imaging, microfluidics, high throughput sequencing, bioinformatics, proteomics and mass spectrometry, antibody technologies, cytometry, and animal housing. In addition, the proximity to the hospital allows access to large clinical databases and sample collections, as well as translational research. As a founding member of PSL University, Institut Curie benefits from privileged connections within the exceptional scientific environment of PSL University and access to various additional technical facilities and funding sources.

As part of one of its strategic research domains entitled “Multiscale Physics-Biology-Chemistry and Cancer”, Institut Curie is recruiting a new director for the research unit “Physico-Chimie Curie” (CNRS UMR168 / Sorbonne Université) located in Paris city center. The newly appointed department head is expected to establish a successful research team in line with the scientific mission of the unit.

The “Physico-Chimie Curie” unit houses around 120 people. Its scientific goal is to uncover the role of physical laws in the architecture and functions of cellular systems, with a particular emphasis on cancer. The unit’s scientific interests cover a breadth of topics at multiscales, ranging from single molecule properties (molecular motors, DNA-protein interactions, membrane proteins) to cellular functions (cell adhesion, cell division, cell motility, intracellular transport, mechanosensitivity) and the collective behavior of cells in tissues and organisms (wound healing, morphogenesis). The approaches combine theoretical studies – including statistical physics of non-equilibrium systems and data analysis using inference methods – and a variety of experimental techniques on biomimetic and cellular systems – such as optical and electron microscopy, microfluidics and micropatterning, optogenetics, lineage tracing, and mechanical micromanipulation.

The successful candidate will benefit from the expertise of the unit’s staff in biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, and will have access to the state-of-the-art research equipment and institute facilities. Institut Curie also provides privileged opportunities for close collaborations with clinicians.

The successful candidate should have strong management skills, a proven record of administrative duties, and meet criteria to obtain national and international funding. A good knowledge of the French academic system will be a definite advantage. Particular attention will be given to candidates holding a permanent senior position (DR or PR-level) at French national research institutions (CNRS or university). Other candidates should be ready to apply to such positions.

Applications should be sent to searchcommittee.umr168@curie.fr. Deadline: January 7th, 2019.

Please send a personal statement explaining your motivation to undertake the directorship of the Physico-Chimie Curie department at Institut Curie, a 3-4 page research plan, a full CV, detailing publications, patents, invited conferences, awards, grants, training and teaching experience, and contact details of 3-5 individuals who can be contacted for recommendation letters.

Institut Curie is an inclusive, equal opportunities employer and is dedicated to the highest standards of research integrity.