BBSRC White Rose DTP Studentship in Mechanistic Biology
University of Sheffield
Supervisors: Prof FM Boissonade, Dr RJ Mead

Title: A novel role for a specific chemokine in CNS function
Deadline for applications: 24th January 2014

BBSRC White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership

The White Rose Consortium (Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York) invites applications for its doctoral training programme to study at the University of Sheffield in Mechanistic Biology for September/October 2014 entry.

We offer a 4-year programme of integrated research and skills training, with cross-disciplinary supervision and opportunities for professional internships with external partners. Our vision is to train researchers of the future equipped to address and solve fundamental and strategic biological questions of national and global importance in the following areas:

Food Security; Industrial Biotechnology and Bioenergy; World Class Bioscience

The programme builds on the excellent track records of the Universities of Leeds (Faculties of Biological Sciences and Maths and Physical Science), Sheffield (Faculty of Science) and York (Departments of Biology and Chemistry) as leading centres of research and training in molecular and cellular biosciences.

The Project: A novel role for a specific chemokine in CNS function

Recent studies have demonstrated a significant role for chemokine signalling in the nervous system where they have been shown to play a major role in neuronal–glial communication, having diverse effects regulating neuronal development, neuroinflammation and synaptic transmission. Work in our laboratory provides the first demonstration that a little-studied chemokine and its receptor are present and functional in highly specific neuronal and glial elements of the nervous system. This project will characterise expression of these molecules in the central nervous system, and investigate their potential role in normal function and in the pathogenesis of neuroinflammatory disease.

We welcome applications from students with first degrees in Biological Sciences, Neuroscience or other relevant subjects. For the successful applicant, the studentship would provide funding for tuition fees and living stipend at the current Research Council UK rates (subject to eligibility). Please note that EU citizens must have lived in the UK for at least 3 years to be eligible for full support.

For further details of the DTP programme please see http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/scholarships/bbsrc2014

How to apply

Applicants should have or expect to achieve an undergraduate honours degree at 2:1 or higher in a relevant field.

Informal enquiries can be made to Professor Boissonade f.boissonade@sheffield.ac.uk

To apply for the post please complete the online application at http://www.shef.ac.uk/postgraduate/research/apply, including the following documents:

a) a CV, including reference details. We will NOT contact your referees; it is your responsibility to request references and ensure that we receive them
b) transcripts if available.