



ESR 12 | Chemoenzymatic selective oxidation for the synthesis of rare sugars

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The first half of your PhD research (18 months) will be carried out at the company CASCAT GmbH (Germany) under the supervision of Dr. André Pick. The second half of the PhD work (18 months) will be at acib GmbH (Graz) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Robert Kourist. The H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) – Innovative Training Network (ITN) project starts in January 2020 (M1). PhD project is funded for three years and the date of recruitment, start of the PhD project, is planned for July 2020 (M7) latest on December 2020 (M12).

Your PhD degree will be awarded based on successful completion of the research work. You will also be required to participate in the training events and workshops organized by the ITN-European Industrial Doctorates (EID) program. As a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) fellow, you are also expected to contribute your time in the dissemination of your PhD project's result through public engagement and other scientific platforms.

The PhD research will focus on:

- (i) Optimization of the reaction conditions for chemoenzymatic synthesis of renewable chemicals,
- (ii) Development of chemoenzymatic tandem catalysts for the in situ regeneration of redox cofactors,
- (iii) Development of methods for the coupling of chemical catalysts to biocatalysts,
- (iv) Biochemical characterization of the tandem catalysts,
- (v) Evaluation of the chemoenzymatic synthesis in terms of productivity and sustainability.

Recruiting Institution: Acib GmbH (Austria).

Address applications to: Prof. Dr. Robert Kourist (personal@acib.at)

REQUIREMENTS

- An outstanding M.Sc. degree in Biotechnology, Chemistry, Biochemistry or a related discipline,
- Eligible as a graduate student at Graz University of Technology, Austria,
- At the time of recruitment, the applicant must not have resided (or carried out his/her main activity e.g. work, studies, etc.) in Austria, for more than 12 months in the last three years immediately prior to the reference recruitment date,
- Research experience in molecular biology, structural biology, biocatalysis or related,
- Experience in analytical methods (HPLC, GC, MS, etc.),
- Ability to work in an international team,
- Inter- and multidisciplinary thinking,
- High motivation,
- An integrative and cooperative personality with excellent communication and social skills,
- Fluency in English – written and oral.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply for the position, kindly provide:

- (i) A letter of motivation including a one-page statement of your research interests, relevant skills and experience;
- (ii) A CV including publication list; and
- (iii) Names and contact details of three referees willing to write confidential letters of recommendation.

Applications of women and disabled persons are particularly welcome.

All materials should be attached as a single PDF file (max. size 5MB). The PDF file name should include ESR12, your last name and first name (using "ESR12_surname_firstname.pdf").

DEADLINE

The closing date for all applications is 15th of May 2020 or as soon as suitable candidates have been identified.



Innovative Training Network – European Industrial Doctorates

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