

Postdoc Position in Neuroscience – Vascular Contributions to Cognitive Impairment & Dementia

An NIH-funded postdoctoral position is available in the laboratory of Dr. Kristen Zuloaga to study the vascular, metabolic, and hormonal mechanisms underlying dementia. Studies will examine how menopause and prediabetes (a major vascular risk factor) influence dementia pathology. Our studies utilize a variety of approaches, including in vivo cerebral blood flow measurements, in vivo gene manipulation (stereotaxic injection of AAVs), cognitive behavioral testing, molecular biology (multiplex immunoassays, qPCR, Western blot, ELISA), immunohistochemistry, mouse models of cognitive impairment caused by prediabetes (chronic high fat diet), and mouse models of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease (3xTg-AD mice), vascular contributions to cognitive impairment and dementia (VCID) (unilateral carotid artery occlusion model), and mixed dementia (3xTg-AD + vascular occlusion). Please visit our lab website for more specific information regarding ongoing projects: <http://www.zuloagalab.com>

Mentorship Environment:

Our research group values open communication, motivation, optimism, mutual respect, teamwork, and innovative thinking. Dr. Zuloaga is highly committed to individualized mentoring plans to help trainees achieve the scientific career they desire. At a minimum, the training environment will include: professional/career development, one-on-one meetings, group lab meetings, departmental neuroscience seminars and journal clubs, opportunities to present your work at national and international scientific conferences, and manuscript preparation for publication in high quality journals. In addition, Dr. Zuloaga has a strong funding record and will personally provide mentorship for postdoctoral fellowship and/or K99 or Scientist Development grant applications when desired by the applicant. Opportunities for community outreach include the annual Albany Brain Bee, Brain Awareness Week, and Alzheimer's Association activities.

About Dr. Zuloaga and Albany Medical College:

Dr. Zuloaga is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Neuroscience and Experimental Therapeutics (DNET) at Albany Medical College. She has received external funding at every stage of her career, including pre-doctoral (AHA, American Heart Association and Sarver Heart Center), postdoctoral (awarded by NIH, AHA and Collin's Medical Trust), career development/transitional (current AHA Scientist Development Grant) and independent (current NINDS R01, awarded 4/2019). DNET is rapidly expanding, with four new faculty members being recruited in the past two years, each with a focus on promoting translational research. DNET is an integral part of a large and active neuroscience community in Albany, which includes SUNY Albany, Wadsworth Center, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and the Neural Stem Cell Institute.

Requirements:

Candidates should have a Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Biomedical Sciences, Physiology, or related discipline, should be highly motivated, and should be able to work both independently and as part of a team. A passion for science, excellent communication (oral and written), organizational skills, and a positive attitude are required. Surgical expertise (stereotaxic injections, vascular occlusions), behavior testing expertise, and/or a background in dementia, vascular physiology or neuroendocrinology would be beneficial. Successful candidates will possess a strong track record of publication in high quality journals in their field.

The position is funded by a recently awarded R01 (up to 5yrs of funding available for this position at NIH salary levels of **\$50,004 - \$61,308 per year** based on experience level) and comes with **full healthcare benefits**.

We value diversity, underrepresented minorities are highly encouraged to apply.

Applications for the position should include a CV, contact information for three professional references, and a cover letter describing major achievements, technical skills, career goals, and how you see your research interests fitting within the scope of our research program. Please send application materials to Dr. Kristen Zuloaga at zuloagk@amc.edu