



**The Aix-Marseille University is funding an innovative and emerging project aiming at developing a new sponge model to stimulate interdisciplinary studies in Evolution-Development and Ecology. In this context, 3 positions are available immediately:**

**Study engineer 2 years contract, Marseille, France.**

The candidate will work in both IBDM (Luminy) and IMBE (Endoume) laboratories. Skills are required in cellular and molecular tools used in developmental genetics: nucleic acid extractions, PCR, Race PCR, cloning, designing primers, synthesis of probes, designing constructs, in situ hybridization, immunohistochemistry, animal handling, microscopic observations. A good knowledge (at least theoretical knowledge, ideally experimental experience) in RNA interference and transgenesis will be important since these techniques will have to be developed and tested in a new non-conventional biological model (sponge). The candidate should have skills in communication (in both French and English), tenacity and a pronounced taste for challenges. Please contact ASAP: [andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr](mailto:andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr); [carole.borchiellini@imbe.fr](mailto:carole.borchiellini@imbe.fr) and/or [emmanuelle.renard@imbe.fr](mailto:emmanuelle.renard@imbe.fr)

**Research engineer 2 years contract, Marseille, France.**

The candidate will spend the first year of its contract assembling and annotating the sequence data for the genome and transcriptome of the two sponge species *Oscarella lobularis* and *Oopsacas minuta*. The second year will be devoted to the detailed functional annotation of these genomes and their comparison with the genome of *Amphimedon queenslandica*, in close collaboration with sponge specialists at IMBE (Endoume), and developmental biologists at IBDM (Luminy). The ideal candidate will be a young PhD in applied bioinformatics with a previous experience in genomic sequencing of eukaryotic organisms, and good notions of molecular evolution. Skills are required in the manipulation of assembly softwares such as Velvet (short reads), Newbler (454), Mira (454, Illumina), SOAPdenovo (short read), and genomic data mapping and browsing such as Bowtie, SOAP align, bwa, (short reads), bfast (short and long reads), Artemis, Tablet, IGV, Genome browser or TopHat/Cufflinks (RNA-Seq). The candidate will work in an environment where all the necessary software are up and running, with the help of the Paca-Bioinfo platform team (2 IR, 2 IE). The candidate should be able to communicate in both French and English. Please contact ASAP: [claverie@igs.cnrs-mrs.fr](mailto:claverie@igs.cnrs-mrs.fr) and [andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr](mailto:andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr)

**Ph.D Student funding for 3 years, Marseille, France.**

The candidate will be co-supervised by J.M. Claverie at IGS (Luminy) and C. Borchiellini at IMBE (Endoume). The project will consist in the molecular and functional characterization of mechanisms implicated in epithelial morphogenesis (polarity/ ciliogenesis, junction patterning and regulation) in a sponge, *Oscarella lobularis*. Based on the genomic data obtained by IGS, the PhD student will identify candidate genes and study their (*in situ* hybridization, immunolocalization, knockdown). Skills in bioinformatics (phylogeny and domain analyses), developmental genetics, cellular and molecular biology are required. Please contact ASAP: [claverie@igs.cnrs-mrs.fr](mailto:claverie@igs.cnrs-mrs.fr), [andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr](mailto:andre.le-bivic@univ-amu.fr) and [carole.borchiellini@imbe.fr](mailto:carole.borchiellini@imbe.fr) and/or [emmanuelle.renard@imbe.fr](mailto:emmanuelle.renard@imbe.fr)

