BioCity Turku Announcement 46/2024

46/2024

This week

* MBC Bioinformatics Consultation, 12th November at 13:00
* FICAN Webinar, 13th November at 15:00, Elo
* Frontiers of Science, 14th November at 12:00, Mahanthappa
* SSB Life Science Business & Innovation Seminar, 14th October at 14:00
* IPP Seminar, 15th November at 12:00, Harvala and Thapa

Next week

* Turku Gut-Brain Axis Symposium, 20th November
* CellCom Seminar, 21st November at 10:00, Coulombe
* InFLAMES Corporate Corner, 21st November at 11:30

In near future

* Find Partners for HE Health Calls, 28th November at 12:00
* TCRS Christmas Seminar, 3rd December at 15:00
* MSc Thesis Project Expo, 4th December at 09:00
* European Partnership Event, 9th December at 14:00

Couses

* scRNA-seq Annotation Workshop, 25th and 28th November

Open calls

* canSERV
* SPARK Finland

Open positions

* Project Engineer or Research Technician
* Doctoral Researcher or Postdoctoral Researcher
* Doctoral Researcher or Postdoctoral Researcher

Links to recruitment pages

Turku BioNet Seminar Calendar
Kiinamyllyn viikkokalenteri
PGE Course Calendar

MBC Bioinformatics Consultation

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biocityturku@bioscience.fi

12th November at 13-14
Onsite event
Biocity A, 7th floor small seminar room

Open bioinformatics consultation sessions are organized regularly on-site (in Biocity). Feel free to pop in without reservation and ask about bioinformatics, experimental design and data analysis. The consultation sessions are organized under the Biocenter Finland Bioinformatics platform and they are open to all academic researchers.

All discussions are private – please wait for your turn in the corridor.

More information and tentative schedule: https://elolab.utu.fi/mbc-bioinformatics-consultation/
Changes to the schedule are possible and will be updated on this page.

Read more about MBC and the training and support options available: https://elolab.utu.fi

Everyone warmly welcome!

FICAN Webinar

13th November at 15:00-16:00
Online event
in Teams
Flyer

Prof. Laura Elo, Medical Bioinformatics Centre, Turku Bioscience Centre, University of Turku & Åbo Akademi
Computational tools for multi-level profiling of individual cancer risks

Get to know the speaker: https://elolab.utu.fi/

This time the seminar is organized by FICAN West. The seminar will be held online (Microsoft Teams), find the link below. The event is open to everyone interested in cancer research and these nationwide webinars aim to:

- Share information about high-quality cancer research and its results conducted in various regions.
- Provide insights into cancer care and diagnostics, with a focus on new approaches and techniques
- Foster collaboration and discussion for the benefit of cancer patients throughout Finland

Click here to join the meeting
Meeting ID: 336 344 990 841
Passcode: pHdaHz

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Event details and more information also from here, click!

Frontiers of Science

November 14th at 12:00
Onsite event
in Presidentti auditorium, BioCity
Autumn 2024 program

Prof. Mahesh Mahanthappa, University of Minnesota, USA
Scale-invariant principles of molecular self-assembly across lengthscales
Host: Reko Leino (reko.leino@abo.fi)

Coffee and sandwich at 11:45, first come first served!

Six PhD researchers and early-career postdocs are welcome to **have a lunch and discuss with Prof. Mahanthappa** after the seminar. This is a great possibility to learn hosting skills in a friendly environment and create connections for future. Everyone is welcome to join, BioCity Turku will offer the lunch.

If you got interested, please send an email to biocityturku@bioscience.fi

Mahanthappa research group focuses on the development of block copolymer and liquid crystal materials. Their research approach relies on a powerful combination of chemical synthesis, morphological characterization, and physical properties assessments to develop useful materials for a variety of applications. Situated at the interface of chemistry, chemical engineering, and materials science, their interdisciplinary research program engages students and postdocs with diverse backgrounds in highly collaborative research. Mahanthappa groups' research mission is to scalably produce useful polymer and liquid crystals with precise control over molecular architecture and functional group placement, in order to gain molecular–level insights into their structure–property relationships for potentially innovative applications.

Selected publications

AJ Mueller, AP Lindsay, RM Lewis III, Q Zhang, S Narayanan, TP Lodge, Mahesh K Mahanthappa, Frank S Bates. 2024. Particle Dynamics in a Diblock-Copolymer-Based Dodecagonal Quasicrystal and Its Periodic Approximant by X-Ray Photon Correlation Spectroscopy. Physical Review Letters 132 (15), 158101

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Lindsay AP, Jayaraman A, Peterson AJ, Mueller AJ, Weigand S, Almdal K, Mahanthappa MK, Lodge TP, Bates FS. 2021. Reevaluation of Poly(ethylene-alt-propylene)-block-Polydimethylsiloxane Phase Behavior Uncovers Topological Close-Packing and Epitaxial Quasicrystal Growth. ACS nano 15 (6), 9453-9468

Xu H, Xiao H, Ellison CJ, Mahanthappa MK. 2021. Flexible Nanoporous Materials by Matrix Removal from Cylinder-Forming Diblock Copolymers. Nano Lett. 2021 Sep 22;21(18):7587-7594.

A Jayaraman, CM Baez-Cotto, TJ Mann, MK Mahanthappa. 2021. Dodecagonal quasicrystals of oil-swollen ionic surfactant micelles. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 118 (31), e2101598118

General information

- You can download and save all the autumn 2024 FoS-seminars to your calendar from here: https://seafile.utu.fi/d/44a70f80ac1e46a9ad0a/
- Registration is not needed, participation list is circulated in the audience
- If you are a student and later wish to get a certificate of attendance from the Frontier of Science seminars, print out the seminar diary and after the seminar ask the BioCity coordinator to sign it https://seafile.utu.fi/d/44a70f80ac1e46a9ad0a/
- Please note that any audio or video recording of the seminars is strictly forbidden.
- Autumn 2024 image credits to Mia Åstrand: Details of the Bacteroides fragilis VgrG protein (PDB ID: 8GRA). Image created in the PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, Version 2.5 Schrödinger, LLC.

SSB Life Science Business & Innovation Seminar

14th October at 14:00
Hybrid event
in Tampere University, room F114

We are happy to tell that the Finnish society for Cell biology will arrange the SSB Life Science Business & Innovation Seminar, held for the very first time in Tampere! Join us on November 14th, 2024 at Tampere University or via Zoom for an afternoon of learning about entrepreneurship in life sciences, networking, and great company.

What to expect?

- Learn about entrepreneurship in life science sector
- Meet local and near-by companies
- Enjoy snacks and drinks during a relaxed networking session

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The seminar starts at 14:00, and for those unable to attend in person, the event will be streamed via Zoom! Registration is required for both in-person and virtual attendance. Coffee will be served during the seminar! Also, all attendees physically present who also join the society will have a chance to participate in an exciting raffle!

Speakers include

- Helena Lähdekorpi, Tampere University
- Prof. Jari Hyttinen, BioMediTech
- Jarno Tanskanen, OrganAnalytics
- Tomi Saviluoto, UPM Biomedicals
- Matti Jalasvuori, PrecisionPhage Ltd
- Jenni Karttunen, Tampere Imaging Facility
- Elina Mäntylä, Euro-BioImaging
- Thomas Liuksiala, Genevia Technologies
- Laura Koivusalo, StemSight Oy
- Varpu Marjomäki, Natural Antivirals

Whether you're a student, researcher, or working professional, this event is for you! Register now and secure your spot: https://link.webropolsurveys.com/EP/6D54C63E274886A8

IPP Seminar

15th November at 12:00
Onsite event
in Lauren 2, Medisiina D1016
Autumn 2024 program

Heli Harvala
Improving Blood Safety: Special Focus on Occult Hepatitis B

Keshav Thapa
The Role of Melanocortin 1 Receptor in The Regulation of Cholesterol and Fatty Acid Metabolism in the Liver

Chair: Anja Hjelt

IPP seminar series covers the diversity of biomedical/medical research performed in Integrative Physiology and Pharmacology research unit in Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku plus interesting talks by visitors from national and international research collaboration networks.IPP seminar series covers the diversity of biomedical/medical research performed in Integrative Physiology and Pharmacology research unit in Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku plus interesting talks by visitors from national and international research collaboration networks.

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Turku Gut-Brain Axis Symposium

20th November
On-site event
in Presidentti Auditorium, BioCity

The gut-brain axis depicts the bi-directional communications between gut and the central nervous system, which is implicated in brain-related pathophysiology. Studying the microbiota-gut-brain axis is a multidisciplinary approach requiring input from various research fields including, but not limited to psychiatry, neurology, gastroenterology, microbiology, and bioinformatics.

As a field, the microbiota research is rapidly advancing as both the 'omics techniques, and diagnostics as well as bioinformatic tools continue to develop and help researchers to make better inferences. The Gut-Brain Axis Seminar is a one-day translational research seminar on microbiota-gut-brain axis to bring together local as well as international renowned researchers to present and discuss challenges and advancements in the field.

The key-note speakers are
Rochellys Diaz-Heijtz from Karolinska Institute
(https://ki.se/en/research/research-areas-centres-and-networks/research-groups/genetic-and-molecular-basis-of-nervous-system-disorders-rochellys-diaz-heijtz-group)
and
Thomaz F. S. Bastiaanssen from University of Amsterdam
(https://thomazbastiaanssen.github.io)

Register at latest 10.11.2024. The event is free of charge!
https://konsta.utu.fi/Default.aspx?tabid=88&tap=19455

Preliminary Program

08.45 – 09.30	*Arrivals with Coffee, Posters & Exhibition*
09.30 – 10.15	Thomaz Bastiaanssen
10.15 – 10.45	Talk from the abstracts
10.45 – 11.15	Talk from the abstracts
11.15 – 11.30	Short Talk from the abstracts
11.30 – 11.45	Sponsor's greetings
11.45 – 13.15	*Lunch & Posters*
13.15 – 13.50	Rochellys Diaz-Heijtz
13.50 – 14.10	Talk from the abstracts
14.10 – 14.30	Talk from the abstracts
14.30 – 14.50	Talk from the abstracts

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14.50 – 15.30 *Coffee and Poster Pitching (selected 5 abstracts, 3 min/poster)*
15.30 – 16.15 Panel Discussion: Clinical utility of Gut-Brain axis and the concept of Psychobiotics

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CellCom Seminar

21st November at 10:00
On-site event
in Ministeri Auditorium, BioCity 1st floor

Prof. Pierre A. Coulombe, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
Cytoskeletal keratins as regulators of homeostasis and innate immunity in healthy and diseased epithelia

Host: John Eriksson (john.eriksson@bioscience.fi)

Snack, coffee, and tea served at 9:45

Join us for an engaging seminar with Prof. Pierre Coulombe, G. Carl Huber Professor and Chair of the Department of Cell & Developmental Biology at the University of Michigan Medical School. Prof. Coulombe's research has revealed key mechanisms of epithelial regulation, focusing on skin biology, particularly in understanding how keratin proteins support cell differentiation, tissue resilience, and repair mechanisms. His lab has made significant discoveries in cytoskeletal signaling, revealing how keratins influence cellular processes like inflammation, immunity, and gene regulation, which are critical for developing therapies for genetic skin disorders and cancer. Do not miss this opportunity to learn from a global leader in epithelial biology and cytoskeletal research of keratin intermediate filaments!
https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/cdb/pierre-coulombe

InFLAMES Corporate Corner

21st November at 11:30-16:00
On-site event
in Cave auditorium, Joki Innovation Centre

InFLAMES Corporate Corner *From Data to Innovation* will be held on Thursday, 21 November 2024. The event will start with lunch at 11:30, followed by the official program until 16:00 and culminating in a networking after-party. More details on the programme are coming soon.

The confirmed speakers are:
Chief Operating Officer Kaisa Helminen, Aiforia
Expert Clinical Data Scientist Jussi Leinonen, Bayer
Director Digital Medicine Sammeli Liikkanen, Orion Corporation
Director Findata Johanna Seppänen, THL

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Special Envoy for Health and Wellbeing Päivi Sillanaukee, STM
Customer Solutions Manager Charlotte Granberg-Haakana, CSC
Research Director Laura Elo, University of Turku
Associate Professor Pekka Ruusuvuori, University of Turku

Register to the event by November 18 https://konsta.utu.fi/Default.aspx?tabid=88&tap=19858

More information about the event from https://inflames.utu.fi/events/inflames-corporate-corner-from-data-to-innovation/

Find Partners for HE Health Calls

28th November at 12:15-16:00
On-site event
in Workshop auditorium, Joki innovation centre 3rd floor

Join us for a dynamic event dedicated to networking, collaboration, and project development around the Horizon Europe Health calls. We bring together researchers from diverse disciplines and provide a platform for companies and other stakeholders interested in health-related topics, and aim to foster collaboration and support the formation of consortia for Horizon Europe or other funding proposals

We'll begin the afternoon with inspiring keynote talks, offering insights from both academic and industry perspectives. Afterward, engaging group discussions will take place, and participants are warmly invited to stay for networking and refreshments until 17:00. There is place for 50 participants, first come first serve. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, share ideas, and spark new partnerships!

Secure your spot and register at latest 22 November 2024:
https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/2BD99560A4906E79

More information about the event: https://www.utu.fi/en/news/news/find-partners-for-horizon-europe-health-calls-in-a-networking-event-on-28-november-2024

TCRS Christmas Seminar

3rd December at 15:00-20:00
On-site event
in Alhopuro Auditorium, Medisiina D

Turku Cancer Research Society invites all cancer researchers to our Christmas Seminar, and everyone is welcome, from students and researchers to medical doctors. This year there will be several interesting talks by cancer researchers working in different Finnish companies. The winner of the

Best Cancer Research Thesis Award will also present his/her thesis (Sirpa and the Markku Jalkanen foundation).

As is tradition, we will have a Christmas dinner for the society members, thanks to our sponsors ThermoFisher and BioNordika.

Please register at latest 25.11.2024: https://link.webropolsurveys.com/EP/328D0BAFADACB277

More information from Gabriela Martínez (gabriela.chacon@utu.fi)

MSc Thesis Project Expo

4th December at 09:00-11:00
On-site event
in Cave auditorium, Joki Innovation Centre

Are you running a life-science lab and looking for MSc students to join your group? Come to the MSc Thesis Project Expo and pick the best students!

MSc Thesis Project Expo is a networking event for bioscience related MSc students and for research groups to meet and get to know one another. The event is intended for both domestic and international bioscience related MSc degree students from both University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University, and it replaces the previous research group presentation events.

The event is organized as a poster exhibition, only one poster (vertical A0) per PI. **Register your group to the event only if you have the possibility to take a MSc thesis student in the upcoming year**. There is place for the first 50 research groups.

Register your research group to the event at latest 18 November 2024:
https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/EE016D6A1B60FFB6

The event and the Moodle-site will be promoted to bioscience related MSc students from the Faculty of Medicine (UTU), Faculty of Science and Engineering (ÅAU) and Departments of Life Technologies and Biology (UTU).

More information:
https://www.utu.fi/en/news/news/msc-thesis-project-expo-is-arranged-on-4-december-2024-come-along

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European Partnership Event

9th December at 14:00-16:30 (local Brussels time)
On-site event
in Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU
Avenue de Cortenbergh 80, Brussels

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Join us in an inspiring event exploring how universities are contributing to the European partnerships and how they can work more effectively with companies to achieve the goals of the EU. The European Partnerships bring together the European Commission and the private and/or public partners with the aim to find solutions to European and global challenges through research and innovation, they are a key element in implementing the Horizon Europe programme. Lessons learned from partnerships are also feeding into the next Framework programme.

The role of European partnerships in facilitating a sustainable and competitive Europe

14.00 Coffee, mix and mingle

14.30 Opening words and welcome
Jukka Kola, Director EU & RDI Affairs, University of Turku
Niina Nurkkala, Senior Specialist research & Innovation, space, Euratom, Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU

14.35 Invited short talks
THE ROLE OF RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS: SUCCESSES, STRENGTHS, BOTTLE NECKS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES
Jukka Kola, Director EU & RDI Affairs, University of Turku (chair)
Yagut Allahverdiyeva, Professor, Molecular Plant Biology, University of Turku
Jarkko Paavola, Research Group Leader of Wireless Communications and Cybersecurity, Turku University of Applied Sciences
Inka Orko, Head of Business Development, Sustainable products and materials, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

15.30 Panel discussion
HOW CAN UNIVERSITIES WORK MORE EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF THE EU?
Marion Jamard, Policy Officer, DG RTD, Common missions and partnerships service
Anders Öster, General Manager, Research Coordination & Funding, Wärtsilä
Samuele Ambrosetti, Innovation and Programming Manager, Bio-based Industries Consortium
Mirva Salokorpi, Research Manager, Technology and Seafaring, RDI, Novia University of Applied Sciences

16.20 Closing remarks
Reko Leino, Vice-rector, Åbo Akademi University

Register to the event at latest 1 December
https://konsta.utu.fi/Default.aspx?tabid=88&tap=20195

The event is organized by TRUEnet, Turku Region Universities EU Network.
https://www.utu.fi/en/research/truenet

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More information from
https://www.utu.fi/en/news/news/join-us-in-a-european-partnership-event-in-brussels-9-december-2024

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scRNA-seq Annotation Workshop

25th and 28th November at 10:00-16:00

The scRNA-seq annotation workshop is for researchers and data analysts working on single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) data annotations. Aim of the workshop is to collaboratively agree on naming conventions and to identify markers for cell types and cell states in relevant scRNA-seq dataset(s). Additionally, the optimal annotation granularity for different study cases will be discussed in the workshop.

Workshop goals

1. Naming the relevant cell types and cell states: Establishing clear and consistent names for different cell types, cell states, and cell hierarchies in the biological systems of participant's interest.
2. Finding Markers: Utilizing available resources to identify markers for the agreed-upon cell types and states.
3. Curating Markers: Studying and curating markers in real scRNA-seq datasets to identify reliable markers for specific cell types and cell states.

Workshop includes

1. Lectures
2. Discussions
3. Hands-on work on nomenclature, marker collection and marker curation

For practical reasons, attendance is limited to 20 participants. The workshop focuses especially to human immune cells and at most to one other biological system. We especially encourage **people working with human or mouse immune cells** to attend. Possibility to use one's own dataset can be discussed with the organisers.

The event is free of charge and you can register to the course at latest 11 November: https://link.webropolsurveys.com/EP/5BB80B9AABC121BD

Please note: After registering everyone ends up in a queue from where the course organizers will select the participants and inform them separately.

More information about the event from Iivari Kleino (iivari.kleino@utu.fi)

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canSERV

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Exciting news for cancer researchers! The third EU-funded canSERV call is open and is now accepting applications to support cancer research projects. The researchers can apply for free services (equipment, expertise, resources) at several European Research Infrastructures, including Euro-BioImaging ERIC.

Euro-BioImaging is coordinating and providing open access to a portfolio of cutting-edge biological and biomedical imaging services. Within canSERV call, 28 Euro-BioImaging Nodes provide imaging services. Euro-BioImaging Finland offers open-access imaging technologies and expert services to academic and SME users through two multi-sited Nodes: Finnish Advanced Microscopy Node (FiAM) and Finnish Biomedical Imaging Node (FiBI):

Key dates and important highlights:

- The deadline for proposal submission is **November 28th 2024, 14:00 CEST**
- The experiments must be completed before the end of canSERV, i.e. end of August 2025
- All external users (even those from Finland) are eligible to apply for FiAM & FiBI services via the canSERV call. An external user is defined here as a user who is not affiliated with the same institute hosting the facility
- Access to services can be in person or remotely
- It is recommended that requests for Euro-BioImaging services are limited to a maximum funding volume of 20 000 Euro per project. Potential user projects with higher costs are not excluded, but in this case please contact the Euro-BioImaging Hub for discussion.
- Even though image analysis is not listed as a separate service, users can apply for it via FiAM - Multimodal Advanced Light Microscopy, even for standalone image analysis projects.

The full call text, including user guidelines and other useful information, and the canSERV catalog of services can be accessed via
https://www.canserv.eu/calls/open-call-for-transnational-service-provision/
https://www.eurobioimaging.eu/how-to-access/funding/canserv-second-open-call/

If you have any questions or need help with making the application, please do not hesitate to contact canservprojects@eurobioimaging.eu

In case you are aiming to apply for Euro-BioImaging Finnish Nodes services, please contact our Node Managers, who are more than happy to assist you:
Irina Belaia, FiAM Node Manager, irina.belaia@utu.fi
Tiina Saanijoki, FiBI Node Manager, tiina.saanijoki@utu.fi

SPARK Finland

SPARK Finland call is open 1.-30.11.2024!

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The SPARK program provides mentors and advisors to help you develop your ideas into high-impact health innovations. You are more than welcome to attend the online **information session** for new applicants (and others interested in the program) on Monday 11.11. at 14-15. If you have any questions or need more additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Janina Stauffer (jejsta@utu.fi)

More information from https://sparkfinland.fi/applying/

Doctoral Researcher

Tero Aittokallio's group in Oslo has an open vacancy for a 3-year fully-funded PhD researcher position for developing multi-modal AI to define macrophage and immune targets for improved anticancer immunotherapy. The position is offered within the pan-European doctoral training network, Mac4Me, which will train the next generation researchers in the emerging field of tumour cell-immune host interactions to identify new immunotherapy targets. The network is funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe MSCA Doctoral Network programme. Mac4Me project will use animal-free organ-on-chip systems to recapitulate early liver, bone and brain metastasis during cancer development across the lifespan, such as neuroblastoma, breast and prostate cancer. The multi-modal data from these preclinical models will be integrated with real-world clinical data using AI approaches to identify new immune targets.

More information about the Mac4Me EU MSCA DN network (van-weerden-lab.com)

More information about the position and application link (apply by **November 11, 2024**)

Doctoral Researcher or Postdoctoral Researcher

We are looking for a highly motivated Doctoral Researcher or Postdoctoral Researcher to join a project that explores the mechanisms of RNA regulation in male germ cells in the research group of Professor Noora Kotaja at the Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku, Integrative Physiology and Pharmacology Unit. The position is fixed-term from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2028 (starting date can be agreed).

The research in the Kotaja lab (https://kotajalab.utu.fi/) focuses on the mechanisms of RNA regulation during male germ cell differentiation, and their implications on male fertility and on RNA-mediated paternal epigenetic inheritance of acquired conditions such as metabolic disorders. We are mainly using mouse as a model, but also collaborating with human cohort studies to translate our results to human health. The project includes bioinformatics analyses of RNAseq, long-read RNAseq and small-RNAseq datasets, and the development of analysis pipelines.

More details on https://ats.talentadore.com/apply/vaitoskirjatutkija-tai-tutkijatohtori-bioinformatiikka/m7wy1P?lang=en&UTUID=20567

Apply at latest 22 November 2024 at 16:00

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More details on https://ats.talentadore.com/apply/vaitoskirjatutkija-tai-tutkijatohtori-biolaaketieteellinen-tutkimus/Zq1k2x?lang=en&UTUID=20568

Apply at latest 22 November 2024 at 16:00

Links to recruitment pages

University of Turku in Finnish and in English
Ådo Akademi University in Swedish and in English
FinBioNet

If you have events you would like to add to BioCity Announcement please contact biocityturku@bioscience.fi

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