

Collaborative PhD Studentship: CIC biomaGUNE (San Sebastian) and POLYMAT (San Sebastian), Spain

A PhD position is available as a collaborative project between the groups Aitziber L. Cortajarena (Biomolecular Nanotechnology Lab at CIC biomaGUNE) and Ana Beloqui (PolyZymes Lab at POLYMAT). This project will be focused on the development of multifunctional artificial biocatalysts based on protein-polymer hybrids.

This collaborative project aims to design and fabricate hybrid catalytic biomaterials with different levels of complexity, in order to tackle one pot concurrent reactions using multifunctional protein-polymer hybrids as artificial biocatalysts. For this purpose, new approaches will be developed based on the combination of the experience of the two groups involved: the expertise of Prof. Cortajarena in protein engineering for the generation of protein-based functional hybrids, in particular protein-nanoclusters hybrids; and the expertise of Dr. Beloqui in protein-polymer hybrids for the synthesis of catalytic hydrogels.

The project is highly multidisciplinary and combines research involving biochemistry, protein chemistry, bioinorganic chemistry, (bio)catalysis, and applied polymer chemistry.

The project will be carried out at **CIC biomaGUNE** and **POLYMAT**, two vibrant multidisciplinary and international research institutes in San Sebastian, Spain. Both institutes have established a state of the art research programs at the interface between the chemical, biological, and physical sciences. They offer excellent working conditions and is well equipped with instrumentation and facilities.

Required qualifications and experience.

Candidates should have a Master degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biophysics or a related discipline. Candidates that are in the process of their Master thesis defense in the next 3 months will also be considered.

Previous experience in **protein chemistry, protein engineering, polymer chemistry, molecular biology, and/or biocatalysis** would be highly valuable but not mandatory. The candidate is expected to work in a multidisciplinary and an international environment. Good interpersonal skills as well as written and oral communication skills in English are required.

Conditions.

The successful candidate will be hired by CIC biomaGUNE and Polymat for a 3 year PhD program. Starting date at the earliest convenience.

Candidates should submit a motivation letter, CV and the contact information of two referees using the following [form](#) and indicating “329 - PhD_Student” as reference. The deadline for application is September 15th, 2020.