



## Masters Students Research Training Project

Call date: March 2009

### PROTEIN MISFOLDING IN NEURODEGENERATION

We are looking for a highly motivated and creative student to collaborate on our ongoing research project on the metallochaperone **frataxin**. Deficiency in this small mitochondrial protein is associated to the development of a neurodegenerative disease Friedreich's ataxia (FRDA). Some FRDA patients have missense mutations on the frataxin gene, leading to a protein with features different from the wild type. Focusing on the effect that clinical point mutations have on the protein conformation and stability, we aim at establishing a correlation between protein structural modifications and impaired biological function and also at gaining a better insight of the molecular mechanism behind FRDA.

**The selected student will have a chance to be involved in a state-of-the-art research project and to come into contact with molecular, biophysical, biochemical and cell biology methodologies.**

A very good level of English is required. We are accepting applications from students of biochemistry, cell biology, biology, or related areas. Admission may be immediate.

For informal enquiries and further information:

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