March 15, 2018
4:30-5:30 pm DH 505

Professor Jay Conrad
University of California San Francisco

Drug Discovery at the Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases (IND)

The IND's mission is to prevent and cure neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and chronic traumatic encephalopathy. The IND is housed in the state-of-the-art Sandler Neurosciences Center on the UCSF Mission Bay campus, and is part of the new UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences. The goal of this seminar is to highlight our ongoing research efforts and to alert graduating students to the career opportunities at the IND.
Staff Research Associate II: Medicinal Chemistry

The Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases (IND) at the University of California San Francisco is a world-class research facility directed by Nobel laureate Stanley B. Prusiner. The IND’s mission is to discover causes and develop cures for neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, frontotemporal dementia, chronic traumatic encephalopathy and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Current research at the IND involves both basic and translational science, from molecular, cell and structural biology, to transgenic mouse models and drug discovery. The IND is housed in the new state-of-the-art Sandler Neuroscience Center on the UCSF Mission Bay campus.

JOB SUMMARY:
This position will support drug discovery operations focused on the generation of small molecule drug candidates. The candidate will work with his/her supervisor to choose appropriate drug candidates and have the skills necessary to synthesize those candidates in the chemistry laboratory. The employee should be familiar with standard experimental techniques in a chemistry laboratory including column chromatography, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. The employee will receive training on running novel chemical reactions and is expected to be familiar with all safety protocols. The employee will also be responsible for analyzing and managing data from each experiment and will discuss results with supervisor; an organized laboratory notebook is essential. Employee will work with additional scientists in the group, including biologists and other medicinal chemists, and effective communication is critical to success for the group. This is a full-time position; Monday through Friday work hours; competitive salaries with excellent UCSF full benefits.

SKILLS AND REQUIREMENTS:
- BA/BS/MS with a focus on organic chemistry and 1+ years or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Laboratory experience in the synthesis of organic molecules with a working knowledge of common instrumentation such as NMR and MS.
- Knows standard safety protocols; can investigate and understand all possible safety issues of reagents and reactions.
- Able to show concrete examples of problem solving; understands common reaction mechanisms.
- Good written English and report writing skills.
- Computer literacy on both Macintosh and PC, MS-Office suite and can organize and present results in a clear and concise manner.
- Has 1+ years of drug discovery experience – preferred.
- Able to design synthetic routes to molecules of moderate complexity – preferred.
- Basic understanding of conformational analysis – preferred.
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:
Please email CV/resumes along with contact info for three relevant references (and with cover letter if possible) to: nick.paras@ucsf.edu Please put “SRA2 - MedChem” in the email subject line. This is an open recruitment until filled.

**Equal Employment Opportunity**
The University of California San Francisco is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status. Further information about the University of California, San Francisco, is available at diversity.ucsf.edu. UCSF seeks candidates whose skills, and personal and professional experience, have prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and excellence, and the communities we serve.
The Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases (IND) at UCSF, led by Nobel Laureate Stanley B. Prusiner, is seeking Medicinal Chemistry Staff Research Associates (SRA level I/II).

The IND, in collaboration with our pharmaceutical industry partner, are rapidly advancing potential therapies for diseases like Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s through preclinical models. This SRA will function within a multidisciplinary team of chemists, biologists, pharmacologists and other scientists striving to deliver a small molecule therapy for neurodegenerative diseases. Specifically, this medicinal chemist will work with their faculty supervisor to translate chemical and biological data into designs for new drug candidates and develop the skills necessary to rapidly synthesize those candidates in the chemistry laboratory. The SRA learn to perform a variety of chemical reactions and will be expected to conduct their research in accordance with UCSF and IND safety protocols. The SRA will be responsible for analyzing and managing data from each chemistry experiment and will discuss results with their supervisor and periodically communicate their results to the entire research team.

Interested candidate can apply by going to https://career.ucsf.edu/jobs and searching 48783BR.

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UCSF is the leader in NIH funding for public universities, and provides a strong benefits package including medical/dental/vision, retirement, and 13 paid holidays per year.

Candidates should contact Dr. Nick Paras at Nick.Paras@ucsf.edu