



The Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM, www.fimm.fi) was established in 2007 as a partner institution of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (www.embl.org) together with the new Nordic nodes for molecular medicine in Norway and Sweden. FIMM was inaugurated as a joint venture of the University of Helsinki, the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS), the National Public Health Institute (KTL) with VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland joining in 2008. FIMM headquarters are located in a brand new state-of-the art Biomedicum Helsinki 2 research building on the Meilahti medical campus in Helsinki.

The research areas of FIMM include:

- Genetic epidemiology and genomics of cardiovascular and neuropsychiatric diseases and cancer
- Medical systems biology and medical bioinformatics of common diseases, with a focus on cancer, diabetes and obesity
- Leveraging the aforementioned research for translational applications, including health impact of genes, new diagnostic methods, biomarkers and therapeutics.

FIMM also develops infrastructures for biobanking, medical bioinformatics, high-throughput sequencing, high-throughput screening, and other translational research platforms, including participation in the EU's ESFRI programs BBMRI and EATRIS.

FIMM is seeking outstanding international candidates for the prestigious positions of

Group leaders in Molecular Medicine

Group leaders are expected to relocate to Finland and initiate a new research program as part of the new Nordic EMBL Partnership for Molecular Medicine. The group leaders are nominated for a 5-year term, which is renewable for up to four additional years. We expect to hire 3–4 new principal investigators from this call.

■ FIMM provides attractive sustainable support packages for new international group leaders of up to 1,2–1,7 M euro for the five year period. This includes salaries of the group leader, 1–2 postdoctoral fellows, 2–3 doctoral students and technician(s), consumables and modern laboratory facilities. The candidates are expected to complement this budget through other national or international grants and/or through industrial collaborations. FIMM scientists will be supported by unique research infrastructures for high-throughput research developed at FIMM and enjoy access to the local research community's infrastructures (www.biomedicum.fi, www.biocenter.helsinki.fi/bi/core.htm), national infrastructures (www.biocenter.fi) and international capabilities provided by EMBL. Assistance and financial support is also provided for international relocation.

■ Qualification requirements include a MD/PhD, PhD or equivalent degree, appropriate postdoctoral training and a track-record of high-impact publications in the top journals for biology or medicine. Group leader positions are intended for early-stage independent investigators, comparable with the assistant or associate professor level, with the latter group expected to show a track record for attracting significant independent funding.

■ Successful candidates are expected to initiate a new independent research program with a clear relevance to molecular medicine with significant translational opportunities. We expect multi-disciplinary research collaborations with other FIMM research groups, with the internationally recognized biomedical and medical research environment in Helsinki, as well as with other top Finnish scientists, including the Centres of Excellence of the Academy of Finland (www.aka.fi/coe). We hope the candidates will be able to make use of the FIMM technology platforms in their research or to contribute towards technology development.

■ Applications should include a covering letter summarizing the applicant's career and future plans (1 page), CV and a list of publications (past 10 years only, with 5 most significant publications indicated), short research plan (max 3 pages) with a summary of expected translational, medical or public health impact, and names of three references.

■ Applications should be addressed to the Board of FIMM and sent electronically to the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM) at fimm-email@helsinki.fi to arrive no later than 8 April 2008.

■ The top candidates are invited to visit Helsinki in May for a lecture and discussions, and to provide a more detailed research plan as well as letters of reference. An international panel will evaluate the candidates and the proposals. The first candidates may be nominated in June with an anticipated starting date in the fall of 2008, or at the latest by the end of the year.

■ For further information please contact Director, Professor Olli Kallioniemi (olli.kallioniemi@helsinki.fi) or visit our website www.fimm.fi for details of the call for group leaders.

