The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) invites applications for the position of Research Specialist in Biochemistry, under the direction of Nikolaos Sgourakis. The Sgourakis Research Group investigates the structural biology of antigen processing and presentation pathways, with emphasis on viral immune interference mechanisms targeting MHC class-I molecules. We use standard recombinant protein expression, in vitro refolding and purification protocols combined with nuclear magnetic resonance methods for structure elucidation and functional cell assays to test the structural findings.

The successful candidate will help with the preparation of samples, experiment setup, and result interpretation. An important component of her/his tasks will be to participate in the writing of papers and preparation of grants, by providing specialized knowledge on the protocols/experimental procedures involved. Assisting with the cloning, expression, and purification of protein samples will also be required at times, especially at the beginning of projects. It is also the responsibility of the selected candidate to ensure that research proceeds as efficiently as possible; this will include creating timelines for each project, tracking progress of research projects, and proposing ideas for realigning projects with their timelines. Since this position requires working on multiple projects simultaneously and constantly collaborating with the PI and other group members, the applicant will need to excel at multi-tasking, be extremely self-motivated, and have exceptional written and verbal communication skills.

**RANK:** Assistant Specialist Step 1 – Associate Specialist Step 4

**SALARY:** Starting at $42,144, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:** A Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry, biochemistry or related discipline and at least one year of experience working in a research laboratory.

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Experience in the writing and preparation of grants; the ability to: organize and manage a lab; work well with faculty, staff, and students in an independent fashion; follow-up on orders and timelines; prioritize workload; meet deadlines; and communicate well verbally and in writing.

**POSITION AVAILABLE:** Fall 2015

**TERM OF APPOINTMENT:** One year, with the possibility of extension contingent on availability of funding and positive performance review.

**TO APPLY:** Applications are accepted via the UCSC Academic Recruit online system, and must include [1] Curriculum Vitae, 2) a onepage statement of research interests that addresses his/her expertise and skills, and 3) contact information for three references]. Documents/materials must be submitted as PDF files.

Apply at [https://recruit.ucsc.edu/apply/JPFXXXX](https://recruit.ucsc.edu/apply/JPFXXXX)

Refer to Position #JPF00XXX-YY in all correspondence. [JPF# is system generated and APO will complete this section at time of UC Recruit search set-up]

*All letters will be treated as confidential per University of California policy and California state law. For any reference letter provided via a third party (i.e., dossier service, career center), direct the author to UCSC's confidentiality statement at [http://apo.ucsc.edu/confstm.htm](http://apo.ucsc.edu/confstm.htm).

**CLOSING DATE:** Review of applications will begin on June 1, 2015. To ensure full consideration, applications should be complete by this date. The position will remain open until filled, but not later than 08/31/2015.