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Wydział Chemii



Call for Applications for a PhD Student Position

OPUS 29 project

„The application of non-covalent and electrostatic interactions in the design of helical oligomers to disrupt bacterial cell membranes”

financed by **National Science Centre, Poland**

project leader **dr hab. Karolina Pułka-Ziach, prof. ucz.**

Specific Requirements

- master's degree (or equivalent) in Chemistry or a related field
- enrolment in a Doctoral School at the time of commencement of the scholarship payment
- strong motivation and commitment to scientific research
- practical experience in the synthesis and purification of organic compounds, including HPLC, preferably peptides and peptidomimetics
- familiarity with spectroscopic techniques, including NMR, UV-Vis, CD, and MS
- ability to work independently and as part of a team
- good command of spoken and written English
- research activities will be carried out at the Faculty of Chemistry, University of Warsaw

Research Tasks

- synthesis of building blocks for the preparation of oligoureia foldamers
- design and synthesis of novel foldamers incorporating binding sites for the efficient binding of simple sugars, based on known compounds with antibacterial activity
- investigation of the interactions between the synthesized foldamers and simple sugars
- evaluation of the proteolytic stability of the synthesized compounds

What We Offer

- the opportunity to work on an interdisciplinary research project at the interface of chemistry (organic synthesis and supramolecular chemistry) and biology (antibacterial properties)
- the opportunity to participate in scientific conferences in Poland and abroad

Salary/scholarship

- the doctoral scholarship may be funded for the entire duration of the doctoral studies. Currently, the doctoral scholarship amounts to PLN 4,346 gross per month, increasing to PLN 5,500.50 gross per month following the mid-term evaluation; alternatively, a research scholarship may be awarded in accordance with the NCN Regulations for the Awarding of Research Scholarships (NCN Council Resolution No. 25/2024 of 4 March 2024), with a maximum amount of PLN 5,000 net per month

Required Documents

- cover letter
- CV, including a detailed list of publications, previous research achievements, and distinctions/awards resulting from research activities
- copy of the Master's degree diploma (or equivalent)
- signed Personal Data Processing Information Form (<https://www.chem.uw.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Informacja-dotyczaca-przetwarzania-danych-osobowych.pdf>)

Application Procedure

- applications should be submitted exclusively by email to karola@chem.uw.edu.pl, with the subject line "OPUS29 – PhD", by **16 September 2026**

Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee in accordance with the NCN Regulations for the Awarding of Research Scholarships. The committee reserves the right not to award the scholarship and to reopen the competition.

The results of the competition will be announced no later than **23 September 2026**

Contact person: **dr hab. Karolina Pułka-Ziach, prof. ucz.**

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