



## PhD Position in Synthetic Chemistry and Bioconjugation

### Overview of the Post

<b>Research Group</b>	BioFunctional Chemistry
<b>Location</b>	UMR7199 – Faculty of Pharmacy – University of Strasbourg 74 route du Rhin, 67400 Illkirch
<b>Salary</b>	Approximately 20 220 € per annum
<b>Hours</b>	Full-time
<b>Contract type</b>	36-month fixed term position funded by Médalis and <i>région Grand-Est</i>
<b>Reporting to</b>	Dr Alain Wagner and Dr Guilhem Chaubet
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.biofunctional.eu/">http://www.biofunctional.eu/</a>

### Job Description

The BioFunctional Chemistry group is looking for a competent and highly motivated organic chemist for a PhD project in the field of synthetic chemistry applied to bioconjugation. This project will be conducted in close collaboration with biologists and a mass spectrometry team.

Bioconjugation is an ever-increasing area of research with notorious applications in biology and medicine as demonstrated by the development of antibody-drug conjugates (ADC). With two drugs recently approved by the FDA, and 55 in clinical pipelines, the field of ADC is now thriving, creating a high demand for bioconjugation chemists. This PhD position offers a unique opportunity for an organic chemist to develop new strategies of bioconjugation and familiarise himself with the cutting-edge techniques of the applied research in a multidisciplinary environment.

The responsibilities of the candidate will be as follow:

- Synthesize new reagents for bioconjugation
- Optimize and develop bioconjugation procedures
- Prepare and characterize novel ADC
- Work alongside mass spectrometry researchers and biologists
- Collaborate in the preparation of scientific reports and journal articles
- Take a share in the laboratory-based collective tasks
- Attend and participate actively in group meetings

The ideal candidate will have to demonstrate the following skills:

- Broad knowledge and experience in organic synthesis
- Understanding of the principles of bioconjugation methodology
- High degree of self-organization, discipline in documentation and reporting
- Be able to work effectively as part of a group, assume group responsibilities and supervise junior team members

In addition, good communication skills in both French and English, as well as practical experience in handling biomolecules (e.g. proteins, antibodies), will be sought after.

## The BFC Group

The BioFunctional Chemistry group is currently run by Dr Alain Wagner and comprises 15 researchers – 2 permanent researchers, 3 engineers and technicians, 5 postdoctoral researchers, and 5 PhD students – possessing a strong knowledge in synthetic chemistry, bioconjugation techniques, cell culture, and protein expression and purification. This in-house multidisciplinary expertise allows the group to be competitive in the expanding field of bioconjugation, by being able to perform every step of the research in this area, from the synthesis of the molecules to their biological testing.

For representative and recent publications, please refer to:

- Ursuegui *et al.*, *Nature Commun.*, **2017**, *8*, 15242
- Dovgan *et al.*, *Bioconjugate Chem.*, **2017**, 10.1021/acs.bioconjchem.7b00141
- Ripoll *et al.*, *ACS Appl Mater Interfaces*, **2016**, *8*, 30665
- Ahmed Atto Al-Shuaeeb *et al.*, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **2016**, *22*, 11365
- Liu *et al.*, *Angewandte Chemie Int. Ed.*, **2016**, *55*, 12073

## How to Apply

Applicants are invited to send a CV and a summary of their research achievement, as well as details of two referees, to Alain Wagner (alwag@unistra.fr) and Guilhem Chaubet (chaubet@unistra.fr).

