

DIRECTOR AT THE SANT PAU BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IIB SANT PAU)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Sant Pau Research Foundation, known as 'Institut de Recerca' (IR) of the Santa Creu i Sant Pau Hospital, is a R&D Consortium based in Barcelona and linked to the Santa Creu i Sant Pau Hospital. The Sant Pau Research Institute is a CERCA Research Institute. CERCA is the public Catalan network of research centres (www.cerca.cat). The Sant Pau Research Institute is also the manager of the Sant Pau Biomedical Research Institute (IIB Sant Pau), awarded by the Health Institute Carlos III (Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities) with the Health Research Institute accreditation in 2011 and renewed on 2016. The IIB Sant Pau is a research consortium established by the Santa Creu i Sant Pau Hospital and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), and participated by the Puigvert Foundation, the Iberoamerican Cochrane Centre, the Barcelona-Sardenya Primary Health Centre, the Public Health Agency of Barcelona, and the Blood and Tissue Bank of Barcelona.

The Santa Creu i Sant Pau Hospital is a general and teaching hospital that is in charge of providing health care to more than 400.000 inhabitants (24% of the population of Barcelona). Some of the multiple activities of the hospital are considered as reference in its field. Every year more than 35,000 patients are admitted, 150,000 urges attended, about 350,000 visits are made to external consultations and more than 75,000 users are accommodated at the 'Day Hospital'. It has 644 beds and 21 operating theaters. Besides being a Teaching Unit of the Faculty of Medicine of the UAB, the hospital hosts a Nursing University School, and participate in postgraduate specialized health training programs, in training stays and many activities of continuing education. The UAB has an internationally recognized research activity and leads the production of doctoral theses in Catalonia. It focuses on innovation and entrepreneurship and promotes knowledge transfer. It has consolidated between the two hundred best universities of the world in the main rankings of universities and between the 10 young universities with more projection and world-wide prestige.

The mission of the Institut de Recerca of the Sant Pau Hospital and the IIB Sant Pau is promoting high-quality basic, clinical, epidemiological, and health services research and innovation, promoting its translation into regular practice with the aim of strengthening collaborative translational research and bridging the gap between basic research and clinical practice so as to ultimately improve patient care.

Besides the honors by CERCA and Carlos III Institute for the the high quality of the research conducted in the Institut de Recerca and the IIB Sant Pau, the European Commission has granted the IIB Sant Pau with the logo "HR Excellence in Research", which identifies the institution as provider and supporter of a stimulating and favorable working environment.

Most of the IR - IIB Sant Pau scientific staff comes from Sant Pau Hospital and the other constituent institutions. Considering the 55 groups credited by the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) as Titular Groups and other 21 Associated Groups, the current number of researchers working at the IIB Sant Pau are approximately 700, most of them having complementary basic and clinical profiles. In addition, there is a sizeable team of qualified graduates in different fields and trainees dedicated to research tasks that support the lines of study of the IIB Sant Pau scientists.

The IR - IIB Sant Pau undertakes its research in five vertical main areas:

- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Genetic, Metabolic and Inflammatory Diseases
- Hematological and Oncological Diseases
- Neurological and Mental Disorders
- Urology and Experimental Surgery
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And two transversal areas of research:

- Epidemiology, Public Health and Healthcare Services
- Molecular, Genomic, Cellular and Kinetic-Dynamic Bases for Diseases and their Treatment

Since its creation in 1999 the IIB Sant Pau has shown a continuous growth of the main research outcomes: scientific publications, translation of knowledge and innovation, and capacity to get research funds. All the facts and figures indicate that IR - IIB Sant Pau is one of the leading biomedical research institutes in Spain. In 2017, the IIB Sant Pau published a total of 1167 original articles in international journals with an overall impact factor that reached 5.170 points and an average impact factor of 5.07. Fifty six percent of the original articles were published in first quartile magazines. Besides national projects, currently IIB Sant Pau has more than 20 competitive projects from EU calls and other international funding agencies. Along 2017, researchers at IIB Sant Pau have presented 5 new patents -thus having 13 conferred patents and 12 in process of resolution-, and created one start-up and 2 Spin-offs.

The annual budget of the IR-IIB Sant Pau is about 16 M euros. Most of the income (88%) comes from competitive public and private funds, and 12% of structural support from the CERCA system.

The IR Sant Pau has recently inaugurated a new building of 9.500 square meters located in close vicinity and connected to the Sant Pau Hospital. It has allowed to upgrade the support infrastructure of the Institute and furnished new space and laboratories hosting experimental research groups in a common space suitable for blending hybrid ideas which are required for scientific breakthroughs. The new building also hosts the Centre for Drug Research (CIM Sant Pau) with a long tradition of performing phase I clinical trials (first administration in humans), and bioequivalence, tolerance, and pharmacokinetics / pharmacodynamics studies in healthy volunteers and in special populations, with a separate space for first administration in oncological and hematological patients. Connected with this, the building will be equipped with a modern 'clean room' apt to develop cell therapy and tissue engineering.

The new research building, together with the modern facilities of Sant Pau Hospital, the teaching pavilion of the Faculty of Medicine of the UAB and the impressive restored buildings of great Art Nouveau architecture of the ancient Sant Pau Hospital hosting health-related institutions and start-ups, makes the Sant Pau Campus a unique and highly attractive scientific environment.

Candidate profile and contact information

IR -IIB Sant Pau is seeking applicants with a:

- PhD and MD degrees and a certain level of clinical background. Candidates with profiles other than MD with a translational background will also be considered.
- Distinguished record of scientific excellence in one of the main research areas of the Institute.
- Research management experience and innovative thinking to lead a dynamic organization.
- Knowledge of strategic Planning, resource allocation and human resources management.
- Knowledge of the Spanish and European Scientific environment.

The Director of the IR will be the Scientific Director of the IIB Sant Pau.

The Director will have the support of a General Manager for administrative issues. He/she will face the challenge to increase the scientific level of the Institute and boost the translational research. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Female candidates are encouraged to send their application.

Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter by e-mail to the Director of CERCA at applications@cerca.cat. The appointment will be for a period of 4 years, which could be extended for another 4 years period, in agreement with the Board of Trustees of the IR Foundation.

Job description

The Director will have the following duties:

- Provide vision and strategic goals for IR -IIB Sant Pau and monitor their implementation.
- Submit the Institute's research activities programme and annual operational budget to the Board of trustees.
- Present the Director's Report at meetings of the Board of trustees
- Facilitate the proper coordination in scientific and managerial issues with the Fundació Institut de Recerca.
- Represent the Institute at official and social events, in coordination with the President and other members of the Board of trustees

- Keep CERCA regularly informed of the Institute’s progress, participate in the periodic evaluations of CERCA centers, and adhere to the commitment of good practices in the scientific and management field of the CERCA centers
- Propose the names of members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to the Board of trustees, keeping it informed about major scientific issues, and organizing the regular meetings.

Selection of candidates

Suitable candidates will be identified in a ranked list by three - five members of the SAB, drawing upon the input of any other expert that the SAB might require. The Board of Trustees will be responsible for the final steps of the selection process and CERCA is delegated to manage all steps in this selection process. The Board of Trustees may create an ad hoc Commission involving some of its members and a member of the SAB in order to provide a short list of the pre-selected candidates. Candidates included in the short list may be invited to visit IR – IIB Sant Pau and meet the ad hoc Commission for a final interview. The results of these interviews will be presented to the Board of Trustees. This will appoint the new Director.

Approximate Calendar

March 10th, Call for applications opens deadline.

May 15th, Application deadline ends.

The appointment will be announced at the end of the process.

