Position Description:
A motivated, team-oriented candidate is sought for a postdoctoral research position in the laboratory of Prof. Kathryn Whitehead at Carnegie Mellon University, funded by the Curci Foundation. The candidate will participate in the design and evaluation of novel materials for nanoparticle mRNA delivery applications. Specifically, we will be examining the interplay between mRNA sequence, delivery vehicle, and protein expression in vivo. As such, one of the primary roles of the successful candidate will be in vitro translation and purification of mRNA sequences.

Experience:
Candidates must have a doctorate in Biology, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, or a related discipline. The ideal candidate will have significant experience with molecular biology, particularly as it relates to nucleic acids. Candidates should have a growth mindset as well as interest in nanoparticle-based drug delivery and genetic medicine. The following skills are considered a plus: organic synthesis, nanoparticle characterization, mammalian cell culture, qPCR, Western blotting, microscopy, mouse handling, manipulation, and imaging. Candidates must also demonstrate enthusiasm for interdisciplinary research and collaboration (both intra-lab and inter-lab), and the ability to mentor graduate and undergraduate students.

Application Process:
Applicants should send a cover letter including relevant experience and anticipated availability date, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to Prof. Kathryn Whitehead. Review of applications will begin April 15, 2018 and continue until the position is filled.

About Us:
The Whitehead Lab is affiliated with the Departments of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University as well as the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Prof. Whitehead is committed to the professional development of her trainees, and she especially welcomes applications from women and underrepresented minorities. The Whitehead Lab places particular emphasis on scientific communication skills, both writing and presentations, so the whole world can understand and appreciate your efforts. More information about the Whitehead Lab is available at http://whiteheadcheme.cmu.edu

In 2017, CMU was ranked by U.S. News and World Report as the #5 Graduate Engineering School in the United States. Pittsburgh is consistently ranked as one of the most livable cities in the country and is near the top of the rankings in food culture, affordability, safety, and outdoor recreation.