

**DIRECTOR at  
The Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida (IRBLleida)**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

The Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida (IRBLleida) is a CERCA Research Institute supported by a Foundation. CERCA is the public Catalan network of research Institutes ([www.cerca.cat](http://www.cerca.cat)). The University of Lleida (UdL), the Catalan Health Institute and the Government of Catalonia, participates as trustees. IRBLleida is also a research center accredited by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Institute of Health Carlos III; ISCIII).

As a mixed organization involving the university and the health system, IRBLleida is committed to the advancement of biomedical research as a mean of improving the health of the population and ensuring optimum healthcare of the illnesses. The interaction between the professionals from both institutions creates synergies that facilitate this task. Accordingly, IRBLleida comprises research groups from UdL, Hospital Universitari Arnau de Vilanova, the Hospital de Santa Maria, and the Government of Catalonia's Ministry of Health in Lleida.

The IRBLleida's mission is focused on supporting and developing quality biomedical and health research, promoting its translation into regular practice, with the aim of responding to the health problems of the community. Its activities range from basic research to research in the primary and hospital healthcare field, as well as translational research in the biomedical field.

To accomplish these goals, the IRBLleida organizes its research mainly in two big areas ([1] Chronicity and aging [2] Neurosciences) and promotes three singular strategic lines ([1] AIHRES: Artificial Intelligent for Health Care and Research Support, [2] CREBA: Training and research in porcine model, and [3] Nutrition and health).

The location of IRBLleida represents a challenging environment in which the institute works closely with hospitals and University. The institute is also deeply committed to the society and has an important number of local business and enterprises as donors.

## **Our foundational goals are:**

- To define and promote research priorities which allow us to differentiate the IRBLleida as a competitive and attractive research environment for biomedical professionals and for the health system.
- To promote an attractive medium in which basic research is at the foundation of translational and clinical research in an effort to obtain significant advances in the knowledge of pathologies and treatments and the best arena for the training of new researchers.
- To promote the participation in international projects as a way to establish strategic partnerships that offer possibilities of research and training that are not in the scope of our environment.
- To establish research as an important activity within the hospital with all that this entails. Primarily, it is necessary that medical professionals have recognized this and have the time needed to develop a competitive research. The objectives of IRBLleida have implied the need to increase the staffing of the hospital significantly.

## **Candidate profile**

The IRBLleida is seeking applicants for Director's position. The elected candidate must meet the challenge of increasing the scientific level of the IRBLleida and boosting the institute's translational research being carried out. Applicants' profile:

- 1) PhD or comparable degree in Biomedical Sciences
- 2) Distinguished record of scientific excellence in Biomedicine.
- 3) Research management experience and demonstrated innovative thinking to lead a dynamic organization.
- 4) Knowledge of strategic planning, resource allocation and human resources management.
- 5) Experience in managing international research projects. Knowledge of the international research programs (H2020, NIH, etc)
- 6) Knowledge of the Spanish and Catalan Scientific, Health and University systems will be considered an added value, as well as professional experience in an inter-institutional environment.
- 7) Positive evaluation in programs of professional excellence in the field of research (ICREA, etc) will be considered an added value.
- 8) Incorporation to IRBLleida should preferably be within the next 6 months following the appointment by the Board of Trustees
- 9) At the time of selection, the candidate's role as a principal investigator of projects funded in competitive calls will be considered an added value.
- 10) The elected candidate will commit to incorporate his/her line and research activity, as well as his/her resources available for execution, in the IRBLleida.
- 11) Ability to develop and execute innovation and transfer projects in the field of biomedicine (responsible research innovation (RRI)).

The appointment will be for a period of 4 years, which could be extended in agreement with the Board of Trustees of the Foundation.

## **Job description**

The director will have the following duties:

- Provide scientific vision and strategic goals for the IRBLleida.
- Submit the Centre's research activities program and annual operational budget to the members of the Board of Trustees.
- Represent the Centre at official and social events, in coordination with the President and other members of the Board of Trustees.
- Keep CERCA regularly informed of the Centre's progress
- Any other functions approved by the Board of Trustees.

## **The Director will be responsible for:**

- Defining a strategic plan and monitoring its implementation.
- Reporting at the meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- Proposing names of members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to the Board of Trustees, keeping them informed about major changes, and organizing their regular meetings.
- Participating in the periodic CERCA evaluation of IRBLleida.
- Coordinating periodic scientific assessments of IPHES's research programs, core facilities, and implementing recommendations of the SAB.
- Supervising the implementation of financial aspects of the budget.
- Negotiating contracts for new group leaders or program coordinators, whenever appropriate.
- Participating in strategic decision-making, such as in the case of strategic alliances with other research institutions, in line with IRBLleida's mission, structure and background.
- To promote and support the development of the IRBLleida's main strategic research lines.

The appointment will be for a period of 4 years, which might be extended in agreement with the Board of trustees of the Foundation.

## **Contact information**

Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter by e-mail to the Director of I-CERCA, at [applications@cerca.cat](mailto:applications@cerca.cat).

## **Selection of candidates**

Suitable candidates will be identified in a ranked list by three 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. The Board of Trustees may create an ad hoc Commission involving some of its members in order to provide a short list of the pre-selected candidates. Candidates included in the short list may be invited to visit IRBLleida and meet the ad hoc Commission for a final interview. The results of these interviews would be presented to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees will designate the new Director.

## **Tentative calendar**

March 2019: Call for Applications opens

May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019: Applications deadline

June/July 2019: List of prioritized candidates by SAB. Short list of pre-selected candidates chosen by the ad hoc Commission

September 2019: The Board of Trustees appoints the new Director

## **Short text:**

*The Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida (IRBLleida) is seeking applicants with a distinguished record of scientific excellence and the innovative thinking necessary to lead a dynamic organization. Applicants must have a PhD or comparable degree in Biomedical Sciences. He/She should have experience in managing international research projects. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Knowledge of the European Research programs, the Spanish and Catalan Scientific system will be considered an added value, as well as professional experience in an inter-institutional environment.*

*Applicants should send a CV and a cover letter by e-mail to the Director of CERCA, at: [applications@cerca.cat](mailto:applications@cerca.cat)*