**Job Post & Description: Research Associate / Laboratory Technician**

Prof. Roger Geiger ([Systems Immunology Lab](https://www.geigerlab.org/))

[Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB)](https://www.irb.usi.ch/)

Bellinzona, Switzerland

**Institute for Research in Biomedicine (Istituto di ricercia in biomedicine) (IRB)**

The Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB) is a center of excellence for research in human immunology, with an emphasis on the mechanisms underlying host defenses against cancer, autoimmunity and infectious disease. We recently moved into a new, state-of-the-art facility equipped with advanced technologies including mass-spectrometry, flow cytometry, microscopy and genomic core facilities. Located in the Italian-speaking region of southern Switzerland, the IRB is centrally placed between Zurich and Milan with immediate access to the Alps. Bellinzona is famous for its three medieval castles, which provide a stunning backdrop for researchers performing cutting edge science.

**Geiger Lab, Istituto di ricercia in biomedicina (IRB)**

The Geiger lab employs a variety of approaches including mass spectrometry-based proteomics, functional genetics, and microfluidics-based applications centered around studying T cell biology in the context of cancer. We recently engineered bacteria to recycle metabolic waste products to promote anti-tumor T-cell responses ([Canale et al., *Nature* 2021](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04003-2)), applied quantitative systems-level proteomics to reveal a dynamic program of protein turnover in human T cells ([Wolf et al., *Nature Immunology* 2020](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41590-020-0714-5)), and are currently leveraging CRISPR screening platforms to interrogate genetic determinants of cancer cell resistance to CAR-T cell predation. For more information, visit: <https://www.geigerlab.org/>

**Opportunity**

The Geiger lab is recruiting a research associate / technician to assist with ongoing projects investigating cancer-immune cell interactions.  This position offers an excellent opportunity to gain exposure to laboratory techniques in human immunology, cancer cell biology and genome engineering. The applicant will be mentored within a cooperative and collaborative research group.

**Scope of Work**

Responsibilities will include culturing primary human immune and cancer cells, performing functional assays using novel CRISPR-based technologies, conducting fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS) to analyze cellular phenotypes, as well as sample preparation for mass-spectrometry based proteomics and next-generation sequencing (NGS). Additional responsibilities may involve basic molecular biology techniques (PCR, cloning, etc.) and computational analysis.

Required Qualifications:

* + B.Sc. in a relevant science (cell biology, immunology, etc.)
	+ Knowledge of laboratory techniques in life sciences (i.e., molecular & cellular biology)
	+ Willingness to learn new methods
	+ Ability to work independently & cooperatively
	+ Strong interpersonal communication skills (written & verbal)
	+ Ability to prioritize tasks, coordinate with others and meet multiple deadlines

Desired Qualifications:

* + M.Sc. in biotechnology or related field OR one or more years of laboratory experience utilizing techniques required for the position
	+ Prior experience with flow cytometry, mass-spectrometry, biochemistry, molecular biology and/or computational biology
	+ Knowledge of programming in R and/or Python

**Expected period of performance**

The applicant is expected to commit for 1-2 years, with the possibility of extension.

**Compensation**

Salary to be agreed upon based on selected individual’s skills and experience in line with local norms at the IRB

**Applications**

The Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB) is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Please send a resume and cover letter describing relevant experience to ian.vogel@irb.usi.ch. Please include your available start date.

Closing date of application: May 2021