Postgraduate Opportunities

Funded PhD. positions available in Systems Biology

Systems Biology Ireland (SBI) is a new Science Foundation Ireland funded Centre for Science and Engineering Technology (CSET). Our focus is on the analysis of biochemical and gene regulatory networks in mammalian cells that determine fundamental biological behaviour such as cell fate decisions in stem cells, migration and drug vulnerabilities in cancer cells. SBI is combining world class core expertise in dynamic modelling, cell biology, imaging, biochemistry and proteomics embedded in a stimulating environment. We collaborate with international researchers from biology, medicine, chemistry, micro-engineering, mathematics, statistics and computing science. SBI is led by Walter Kolch and Boris Khodenko, a team representing the amalgamation of experimental and theoretical analysis at SBI.

SBI PhD program with elements based in both UCD and NUIG. Its objective is to train world class systems biology PhD graduates from diverse Undergraduate disciplines such as mathematics, statistics, biology, computer science, engineering chemistry and physics. We provide taught courses to support cross-disciplinary training. A strong focus on interdisciplinary supervision is vital to the program, with each student typically working on a research project that is either predominantly experimental (“wet”) or computational (“dry”). Whilst the majority of essential PhD skills learned are dry, students will spend a minimum of three months in the laboratory. This has an important formative component, familiarising dry students with the different research culture in wet labs. Similarly students with predominantly “wet projects” will spend time working on the computational side of their work package. As part of their PhD SBI students will also be given the opportunity to work either in industry lab or with one of our academic partners for a number of months.

Eligibility for Funding
Applicants should have an undergraduate (minimum upper second class or equivalent) or masters degree in biology, biochemistry, medicine or physical sciences, computing, mathematics and engineering. Student’s stipend will be €18,000 per annum. Separate funds are also allocated for each student’s computer, travel and lab consumables.

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