



## GROUP SEARCH

The Villefranche-sur-mer Developmental Biology Laboratory (LBDV), located near Nice on the French Mediterranean coast, is seeking to attract a new group.

The LBDV is part of the Observatoire Océanologique, affiliated to the University Pierre and Marie Curie and the CNRS. It has a strong record in addressing basic problems in developmental and cell biology using marine organisms, currently including ascidians, sea urchins, hydrozoans, amphioxus and flatworms. It is well equipped with common facilities for molecular biology, imaging and bioinformatics. It has about 40 members, including permanent scientists, support staff, PhD students and post-docs, organised around 7 research groups:

- Stefania Castagnetti** – Mitosis and spindle checkpoints
- Richard Copley** – Genome and protein evolution in animals
- Evelyn Houliston** – Cnidarian developmental mechanisms
- Alex McDougall** – Cell cycle in eggs and embryos
- Michael Schubert** – Evolution of intercellular signalling in development
- Stefano Tiozzo** – Regeneration and totipotency
- Hitoyoshi Yasuo** – Cell fate specification

**Our aim is to integrate an additional group in 2014-15, able to complement existing themes in cell, developmental and evolutionary biology, and maintain the high level of research excellence.** We would particularly welcome groups planning to explore new or emerging marine model species for research in these areas.

Successful candidates will be offered lab space and shared facilities, and full support in fellowship applications. Depending on the level of experience and current situation of the candidate, various possibilities for start-up funding exist. The ability to secure funding is clearly an important selection criterion, and prior funding applications are strongly encouraged. For example:

- ❖ **ANR:** <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/en/funding-opportunities/work-programme-2014/>  
The ANR will open a specific funding call in 2014 for high-level researchers joining French labs.
- ❖ **ATIP-Avenir:** <http://www.cnrs.fr/infoslabos/atip/lifeatip.htm>  
A CNRS/INSERM start-up programme for new groups (application deadline for 2013: 29th November).
- ❖ **ERC:** <http://erc.europa.eu/funding-and-grants/apply-funding>  
The ERC proposes Starting Grants, Consolidator Grants, and Advanced Grants (application deadlines in March, May and October 2014, respectively).
- ❖ **FRM:** <http://www.frm.org/chercheurs/l-aide-de-la-fondation-aux-chercheurs/programme-espoirs-de-la-recherche-2.html>  
The FRM has a specific start-up programme "Amorçage de Jeunes Equipes" with rolling deadlines (application deadlines not yet announced).

**Motivated scientists should provide a motivation letter, a CV (including names of referees) and a 2-3 page research project by 31st March, 2014.** Short-listed candidates will be invited to Villefranche-sur-mer in May/June 2014 to present their projects. Candidates unfamiliar with the French system should contact us for further information and explanations.

**Contact:**

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