



Researcher Position Available
Institute of Biomedical Technology
University of Tampere, Finland

Nuclear-mitochondrial Interactions in *Drosophila* Models of Human Disease

Collaborative Project of the FinMIT Centre of Excellence in Research on
Mitochondrial Disease and Ageing
<http://www.uta.fi/ibt/finmit/>

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Our studies in the model organism *Drosophila melanogaster* have provided evidence that the phenotypic effects of several different mutations that lead to OXPHOS defects can be suppressed partially by specific genetic backgrounds. Such suppression may be linked to increased expression and/or copy number of the mitochondrial genome. This collaborative project, funded by the Academy of Finland, builds upon these observations, by carrying out a study of the interactions of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA from wild *Drosophila* strains, their association with copy number and effects on phenotype, including interactions with the enzymatic machinery of mtDNA replication and expression. In a second project area, we will probe mtDNA replication *in vivo* in normal and disease-related states, to gain insight into mechanisms by which mtDNA copy number is regulated. These studies should provide a paradigm for understanding nuclear-mitochondrial interactions in human health and disease.

Applicants for the researcher position should hold an M.Sc. degree in genetics, molecular biology or biochemistry and have a documented record of prior research, preferably with publications. Experience working in a team environment with good time management and multi-tasking skills is expected, plus the ability to guide and supervise more junior personnel. Applicants should submit a statement of research interests and qualifications, curriculum vitae and the names and contact details of three academic referees to laurie.s.kaguni@uta.fi or howard.t.jacobs@uta.fi. Applications should be submitted by 31 July, with an anticipated start date in early autumn.