A PhD position in the Service of Molecular Virology (Carine VAN LINT)

Our laboratory is mainly studying the role played by epigenetic modifications (such as histone acetylation, histone methylation and DNA methylation) and by non-epigenetic regulatory elements in transcriptional latency and reactivation of the lentivirus HIV-1 (Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 1) and two oncogenic retroviruses: HTLV-1 (Human T-cell leukemia virus 1) and BLV (Bovine Leukemia Virus). These molecular processes could represent a mechanism by which these viruses escape the host immune response and, in the case of HTLV-1/BLV, allow tumor development.

The main research project aims at further studying the interplay between the BLV promoters: an RNAPII-dependent promoter present in the viral 5’LTR responsible for the expression of the main BLV genes, an RNAPII-dependent promoter present in the 3’LTR responsible for an antisense transcription that we recently characterized, and RNAPIII-dependent promoters responsible for expression of viral miRNAs.

The PhD position will be funded by the Télévie program from the FRS-FNRS (Belgium) and research will be performed in the Service of Molecular Virology (Dr. Carine Van Lint) at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine within the Department of Molecular Biology (DBM) of the University of Brussels (ULB, Belgium). The position will be funded for 2 years starting on February 15, 2018 (+ renewal for 2 additional years).

Candidates must have a MS degree in biochemistry, molecular biology or cellular biology. Previous background with epigenetics and virology are assets.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter also describing past research experiences and CV to Carine Van Lint (cvlint@ulb.ac.be) and in cc: sbouchat@ulb.ac.be), together with the name and e-mail address of 2-3 references.