Project Leader / Scientific Coordinator – Metabolism Program

The Van Andel Research Institute (VARI) is an independent and world-class biomedical research institute dedicated to determining the fundamental molecular origins of disease and translating those findings into effective therapies. VARI is home to more than 300 scientists and staff that work in on-site laboratories and collaborative partnerships that span the globe. VARI’s research pillars that are built upon epigenetics, cancer and neuro-degeneration research, will see the addition of a brand new inter-disciplinary program focusing on nutrition and metabolism, starting in late summer 2018.

The Pospisilik lab, a founding member of this new initiative aims to understand metabolic circuitry to understand metabolism-driven disease processes including inflammation, cancer, diabetes and obesity, and to leverage their findings to push forward novel therapeutic and preventative medicines.

To ensure an efficient and dynamic pace to the core science, the establishment and the expansion of the new metabolism initiative, the program is actively seeking a talented Scientific Project Leader to become an instrumental part of program coordination, grant / manuscript writing and submission, and outreach.

You will be the team’s right hand person providing exceptional scientific leadership support and maintaining leading-edge scientific knowledge in the field.

In particular, you will:
- Assist in managing, and promoting the scientific activities of the program in support of research; assign finalizing tasks, troubleshoot problems, and drive project completion; and instruct, advise, support, and collaborate with research staff, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and student interns.
- Assist by writing and/or reviewing scientific reports, grant applications, peer-reviewed papers, and other publications; assist in applying for external funding to support research projects.
- Act as a liaison between scientific and administrative personnel (Finance and Office of Sponsored Research), assisting with budgetary and/or financial forecasting.
- In absence of lab leadership, serve as a spokesperson on matters related to the lab’s grant strategy and/or research capabilities, organize and chair committees and/or meetings, and develop and deliver presentations.

What traits and characteristics are expected of you?
- Highly motivated, ambitious, possesses strong planning and organizational skills, and brings innovation/creative thinking about science.
• A strong commitment to building and maintaining a positive work environment.
• Strong skills and enjoyment in scientific writing.

QUALIFICATIONS
Realistically you would possess a Ph.D. with expertise in Cellular and Molecular Biology, who has completed a postdoctoral training experience. You are a leader, and above all, a team player.

In addition you should also possess:
• A strong record of successful research with grant writing, peer reviewed publications and/or patents.
• Scientific project leadership or related experience, skill and proficiency with computer databases, proven ability to carry out complex experiments, and ability to instruct others in key protocols.
• Exceptional leadership potential and progressive experience in team leadership and directing others. Excellent analytic, troubleshooting, and communication skills.
• Demonstrated ability to manage multiple work groups and lead cross-functional teams preferred.

HOW TO APPLY
If you possess these attributes and enjoy working with motivated and driven people, we would welcome speaking with you and encourage you to apply today at http://bit.ly/ProjectLead-VARI!

• A cover letter describing your research interests, experience, and how you might contribute to Pospisilik Lab Research.
• An up-to-date Curriculum Vitae.
• A list of 2-3 references along with their contact details.

Please contact Eric Miller (eric.miller@vai.org) for further information or questions, or if you have any difficulty with the application process.

About Grand Rapids, MI
Van Andel Research Institute is located in downtown Grand Rapids, MI, the second largest city in Michigan. Grand Rapids offers a remarkable combination of cosmopolitan atmosphere and small town warmth, known for its philanthropic and sustainability-driven community, and is ranked 19th in "America's Top 100 Places to Live."

Located on the banks of the Grand River, Grand Rapids offers all the big-city excitement you'd expect from a million-resident metropolis, featuring hundreds of restaurants and nightspots, theatres, museums, sports and concerts. The safe and clean downtown is surrounded by an eclectic mix of walk-able
neighborhoods.

With a medical and life sciences industry boom, strong entrepreneurial activity, dedication to green building and living, and innovative employers, Grand Rapids’ diverse economy continues to grow, offering endless career opportunities.

**VAI is actively striving to diversify its workforce and strongly encourages qualified individuals from underrepresented groups to apply. Van Andel Institute is an EEO and Affirmative Action Employer**