

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (Call ID: 92/2021)**

**Post/s of Full-time Research Support Officer (PhD Student)**

**E-MUSE - H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020 – (956126)**

*“Complex microbial ecosystems multiscale modelling: mechanistic and data driven approaches integration”*

Department of Food Sciences & Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences

1. Applications are invited for a full-time Research Support Officer to work as an Early Stage Researcher (PhD candidates) on the grant “Complex microbial ecosystems multiscale modelling: mechanistic and data driven approaches integration” (E-MUSE) financed by the European Union as part of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks Programme in which the University of Malta is a partner. For further information on the Marie Curie schemes and eligibility please visit [http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/actions/research-networks\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/actions/research-networks_en).
  2. Applicants must be in possession of a first degree (BSc) obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division) (or a comparable degree qualification), ideally in one or more of the following areas: Food Science and Technology, Biology (with experience in Microbiology), Microbiology, and should also be in possession of at least ‘Pass with Merit’ (>70%) post-graduate degree (MSc or equivalent) qualification in the same or relevant area. Familiarity with qualitative research methods in Food Microbiology and previous experience in report writing will be considered an asset.
  3. According to the Marie Curie grant rules the applicant **must not have resided** or carried out his/her main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Malta for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to his/her recruitment under the project (short stays such as holidays are not counted). The candidate must be within 4 years of the diploma granting you access to doctorate studies at the time of recruitment and has not yet been awarded the doctorate degree. The candidate may be of any nationality and must be willing and able to work in Malta. The candidate must work exclusively for the project during the employment contract. The candidate must fulfil the conditions to be admitted in the PhD programme indicated in the Job Vacancy.
  4. Throughout the programme the appointed candidates will be seconded for periods of secondments to NIZO Food Research BV in the Netherlands (3 months), and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL) in Belgium (6 months). The candidate will be expected to attend a number of multidisciplinary research-related scientific courses as well as summer schools, winter schools and skills workshops. These will be organized by the E-MUSE project partners.
  5. The successful candidate is expected to work forty hours per week for a definite period of three years. The posts carry a salary of €29,000 per annum. The candidates are also eligible for mobility allowance of €7,200 per annum and a family allowance (where applicable at the time of application) of €3,000 per annum.
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6. Candidates should submit the following to [projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt](mailto:projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt):
- Curriculum Vitae (Europass format recommended; Please specify your residence/work place in the last 3 years).
  - University transcripts (grades).
  - A statement letter addressing his/her research interests in relationship to the research project.
  - 2 recommendation letters.

Applications should be received by not later than **Monday, 31 May 2021**.

**Late applications will not be considered.**

7. Further information may be obtained from the website:  
<https://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/recruitment/projects>

Office of the University,  
Msida, 3 May 2021



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**Further Information**

1. E-MUSE aims to develop innovative modelling methodologies to improve knowledge about complex biological systems and to control and/or predict their evolution by combining artificial intelligence and systems biology. This multidisciplinary strategy integrating genome scale metabolic models, dynamic modelling methodologies, together with the design of efficient statistical and machine learning tools, will allow analysing of multi-omics data and linking the results to macro-scale properties related to cheese ripening and consumer preference. E-MUSE will train researchers with multidisciplinary skills in mathematics, bioinformatics and/or biology to design and use innovative multiscale modelling methodologies, with the ultimate outcome of a dynamic modelling software giving researchers a harmonised language to address future research questions about complex biological systems. Further information may be obtained by contacting Professor Vasilis Valdramidis at [vasilis.valdramidis@um.edu.mt](mailto:vasilis.valdramidis@um.edu.mt).
2. Candidates who have completed their Master or their first degree in an institution where English is not the language of instruction need to present one of the following Secure English Language Test (SELT) results as follows:
  - TOEFL Internet-Based (iBT) – minimum 95 with a writing score of at least 24
  - Academic IELTS – minimum 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each element
  - Advanced Cambridge Certificate at grade C or better.The language certificate must not be older than 24 months.
3. The appointee will be expected to work at such places and during such hours as may be determined by the University authorities.
4. The selection procedure will involve:
  - a. scrutiny of qualifications and experience claimed and supported by testimonials and/or certificates (copies to be included with the application);
  - b. shortlisting; and
  - c. an interview and / or extended interview.
5. This post is for a period of three years and are subject to a probationary period and to the provisions of the Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University of Malta which are now or which may hereafter be in force.
6. The Department of Food Sciences and Nutrition is part of the Faculty of Health Sciences at University of Malta

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Msida, 3 May 2021

