



## Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Technician in Protein Engineering and Evolution Unit

The Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST; see [www.oist.jp](http://www.oist.jp)) is a model for change in education and research with the best international graduate students, working side by side with world-class faculty in modern well-equipped laboratories ([OIST campus video tour](#)). Beautifully situated on the island of Okinawa, OIST relies on a cross-disciplinary approach, with an emphasis on creativity and exchange, to offer unique, individualized graduate training. OIST is a university with no departments, eliminating artificial barriers between people working in different fields, but many nationalities, with students and faculty being attracted from all over the world. Concentrating initially on Neuroscience, Molecular Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Environmental and Ecological Sciences and Physical Sciences, OIST is bringing some of the best researchers in the world to Okinawa to transform the way science and education is done in the global academic world.

### **Position Summary:**

The Protein Engineering and Evolution unit is now seeking a part-time lab technician. Our research is focused on bioengineering and biocatalysis. In our current project, we aim to develop new strategies to engineer robust and thermostable proteins, which have many applications in industry, agriculture, and medicine. To do this, we will reconstruct ancestral enzymes from ancient organisms, which often display useful properties and improved thermostability, for reasons that are not well understood. The successful candidate will mainly be responsible for producing and analyzing these ancestral proteins to help determine the factors that lead to improved thermostability.

### **Position:**

Technician

The Protein Engineering and Evolution unit (Laurino Unit) <https://groups.oist.jp/protein>

### **Working Location:**

1919-1 Onna-son, Okinawa, Japan 904-0495

### **Responsibilities:**

1. Routine experimental work such as cloning, protein expression and purification using *E. coli*, and biophysical/biochemical analysis of proteins
2. Technical support such as medium preparation, buffer preparation, and equipment maintenance

### **Qualifications:**

#### **(Required)**

1. Master's degree in biochemistry or molecular biology, or equivalent laboratory experience.
2. Hands-on experience in most of these techniques: cloning, site-directed mutagenesis,



- protein expression and purification, enzyme kinetics, FPLC.
3. Good English knowledge.
  4. Good communication skills, precise and well-organized person.

**(Preferred)**

Experience with any of these experimental techniques would be highly welcome: circular dichroism (CD), isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC), differential scanning calorimetry (DSC), differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF), UPLC, mass spectrometry (MS), protein expression in yeast.

**Term:**

Part-time (24 hours per week), fixed term appointment for 1 year. Contract initially with 3-month probationary period (inclusive). This contract may be renewed.

**Working hours:**

9:00-17:30 (Discretionary)

**Compensation:**

In accordance with the OIST Employee Compensation Regulations

**Submission Documents:**

- Curriculum vitae in English
- Cover letter in English (and Japanese if available)
- Names and contact information of 2 referees, one of which should be a previous employer

\* Prior to the start of employment all new hires are required to successfully complete a background check. Personal information including employment history and academic background should be submitted to third-party administrators after a conditional offer of employment.

**Starting Date:**

Negotiable

**Application Due Date:**

Applications deadline will continue until the position is filled.

**Application Address:**

Please submit all required application materials by email to:

**Paola.laurino#oist.jp**

(Please replace # with @ before using this email address)



- \* OIST Graduate University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer and is committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty, students and staff. The University strongly encourages women and minority candidates to apply.
- \* Information provided by applicants or references will be kept confidential, documents will not be returned. All applicants will be notified regarding the status of their applications.
- \* Please view our policy for rules on external professional activities (<https://groups.oist.jp/acd/information-disclosure/>).
- \* Further details about the University can be viewed on our website ([www.oist.jp](http://www.oist.jp)).