A PhD position is available in the laboratory of Dr. Priyanka Pundir at the University of Guelph commencing in Fall 2022 or Winter 2023. (The Pundir Lab)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This PhD project aims to dissect the crosstalk between the cells, the immune system, and the microbiome of the skin in health and disease. The candidate will use custom-designed transgenic mouse models to understand how bacterial molecules regulate the immune function of skin-resident mast cells in host defense. The candidate will work in a highly interdisciplinary environment, gaining skills in mouse and microbial genetics, receptor pharmacology, sequencing, flow cytometry, imaging, and infection models. The project builds on the studies Cell Host Microbe 2019 and Nature 2015.

**REQUIREMENTS**

We are looking for an excellent and highly motivated new colleague with a strong background in immunology and/or microbiology. Experience with mouse experimentation, tissue culture, and basic immunological and molecular biology techniques is an asset. Good oral and written communication skills and the ability to work on a team project are essential. This position is open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

**FUNDING**

PhD students in the College of Biological Science are funded at a minimum of $25,348 per year, and the minimum guaranteed duration of support is 12 semesters. For more details regarding funding, see Student Stipend Information.

Depending on eligibility, students may also apply for a wide range of internal and external scholarships. See the full list of available Scholarships and Awards for more information.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Apply by submitting your complete application including

- curriculum vitae
- brief summary of previous research experience,
- 1-page statement of research interests
- the names of at least 2 referees to: Dr. Priyanka Pundir (ppundir@uoguelph.ca)

We invite and encourage applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in higher education.