

## Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science, Stellenbosch University

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### Development of phenoxazine derivatives for multi-stage antiplasmodial activity

**Scope of Research:** The research relates to understanding the mechanism(s) of action of non-quinoline antimalarial drugs, specifically those identified initially as  $\beta$ -hematin (synthetic malaria pigment) inhibitors. The postdoctoral candidate will have the opportunity to work on an individual research project as well as to work within a team (doctoral, masters and Hons level students), and in addition, to gain experience in postgraduate supervision.

This research is to be conducted within the Bioinorganic Research Group at Stellenbosch University, and carries a grant-holder bursary for the successful applicant. The value of the **8-month award** (for research conducted in May – December 2021) will be **ZAR 170,000** (equivalent to the current DST-NRF Free-Standing (local) award).

**Host:** Dr Katherine de Villiers, Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science, Stellenbosch University

**Requirements:** The candidate must have a PhD in Chemistry or Biochemistry, and must have graduated within the last five years.

- Previous experience in organic synthesis, specifically the synthesis of phenoxazine derivatives
- Expertise in *in silico* modelling of  $\beta$ -hematin and the adsorption of inhibitors
- Biochemistry, assay development, lipids and detergents
- Familiarity with heme chemistry
- General computing literacy, with emphasis on Microsoft Office suite, GraphPad Prism

Important: Postdoctoral research fellows are not eligible for employee benefits since they are registered as research fellows and their bursaries are awarded tax free.

**Commencement of duties:** No later than 01 June 2021

**Duration:** 8 months maximum

**To apply:** Send a letter of application, accompanied by a comprehensive curriculum vitae, including list of publications and the names and contact details of at least two referees, to Dr Katherine de Villiers at the following e-mail address: [kdev@sun.ac.za](mailto:kdev@sun.ac.za)

Please note that applicants should request their designated referees to forward confidential reports by the closing date direct to the same address.

**Closing date for applications:** Monday 31 May 2021