

Two Postdoctoral positions open at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

The laboratories of **Andre Ballesteros** (<http://scholars.uab.edu/display/aballest>) and **Beatriz León** (<https://scholars.uab.edu/display/bleon>) are looking for two motivated postdocs to join their NIH funded labs at The University of Alabama at Birmingham (Alabama, USA). The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) is a leading academic research institution that ranks in the top 25 NIH funded institutions in the United States. UAB is a dynamic, collaborative research institution with state-of-the-art facilities, excellent graduate programs, and a commitment to post-doctoral education. The immunology community at UAB consists of over 100 basic or clinical immunologists that coordinate superb seminar series and training opportunities.

The laboratories of Andre Ballesteros and Beatriz León are continuously funded by NIH grants and maintain an excellent record of publications in the top-ranked immunology journals, including *Nature Immunology*, *Immunity*, and *Science Immunology*. Come and join the team!

Candidates with a strong background in immunology, and hands-on lab experience in tissue culture, molecular biology techniques, mouse handling and flow cytometry are encouraged to apply. Salary and fringe benefits are highly competitive and commensurate with research experience.

Position at Andre's lab: The generation of long-lived, high-affinity antibodies is required for protective immunity to most viruses and protection after vaccination. Thus, it is essential to understand the mechanisms that control the generation of protective antibody responses. In this regard, CD4⁺ T follicular helper (Tfh) cells, a distinct CD4⁺ T cell subset that localizes in the B cell follicles, play an essential role in promoting long-lived antibody responses. However, despite significant advances in the field, our understanding of how Tfh cell responses are generated and maintained is still very limited. One of the projects in Andre's lab focuses on studying the cellular and molecular mechanisms that control Tfh cell responses in different models of infection and autoimmune disease. The long-term goals of this project is to determine the cellular interactions, the environmental cues and the molecular mechanisms that control the generation of "high-quality" Tfh cell responses with enhanced B cell helper activity. This knowledge will help us determine the nature of adjuvants that can boost immune responses to pathogens, tumors, and vaccines.

Position at Bea's lab: The research project focuses on the characterization of the mechanisms that initiate and regulate the development of allergic respiratory disease, focusing on the induction/maintenance of pathogenic T helper 2 (TH2) responses to inhaled allergens in infancy and adulthood and the identification of therapeutic modalities that specifically block TH2 responses without causing general immunosuppression.

Applicants with Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent degrees should send their curriculum vitae along with contact information to:

aballest@uab.edu (Andre Ballesteros Tato)

bleon@uab.edu (Beatriz Leon-Ruiz)