

1 Multipurpose ANIMAL TECHNICIAN

AND

1 LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES DEPARTMENT

#### DESCRIPTION OF ICTHYOPATHOLOGY RESEARCH FACILITIES AT UNIVERSITY OF LIÈGE (ULIÈGE)

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The laboratory of Immunology and Vaccinology (Prof. Alain Vanderplasschen) and its Ichthyopathology research facilities are located in the department of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the University of Liege (ULiège) in Sart-Tilman Campus (<https://goo.gl/maps/qCtdRcEqKM11LReT7>). The laboratory possesses an array of advanced tools necessary for a modern approach to virology and immunology research. For example, the lab possesses two flow cytometers and two in vivo imaging systems. The fish facilities are used for the purposes of studying fish pathogens. Ultimately, the aim of the research is to gain an understanding of how these pathogens work and to use this to develop disease prevention tools such as vaccines in order to help control the spread of pathogens both in the aquaculture industry and in the wild. As such, the adequate maintenance of the fish breeding and research facilities will be a crucial part of these research programs. This video provides a good example of the work that takes place in the lab. [https://www.recherche.uliege.be/cms/c\\_9361228/en/a-vaccine-against-carp-herpesvirus](https://www.recherche.uliege.be/cms/c_9361228/en/a-vaccine-against-carp-herpesvirus)

The facilities themselves consist of several tank formats (small – 100L, medium- 200-400L and large 500-1000L). All tanks operate with recirculation systems with several pump/filter formats used in-house. The facilities are split into four main zones **1)** Cyprinid Reproduction Zone, **2)** Eel maturation zone, **3)** Specific Pathogen Free Zone and **4)** Infection zone. Examples of some of these areas are shown below. Furthermore, the facilities will ultimately become incorporated into a new state of the art €4.5 million aquaculture research facility between 2023 and 2024.

Eel growing zone



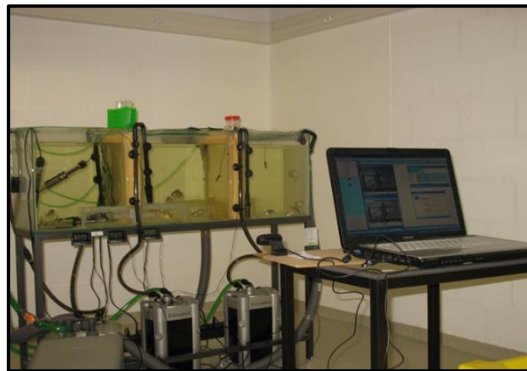
Specific pathogen free zone



Infectious zone



Behavioural Monitoring in infectious zone



## FONCTION

The University of Liège is announcing a vacancy for **two positions**.

The **laboratory technician** will be in charge of lab analyses and running experiments (PCR, cloning, cell culture, ...).

The **multipurpose animal technician** will be responsible for managing small-scale freshwater fish breeding and scientific research facilities. The role will largely be autonomous, and the university is seeking for motivated, energetic, proactive, independent, and adaptable person with some experience in maintaining, monitoring, and upgrading of freshwater fish aquaculture facilities. The role is **not restricted to candidates** with bachelor's degrees, hiring decisions will primarily be based on experience and expertise.

The facility in the university houses several freshwater species of fish including common carp, koi, goldfish, gibel carp and European eel. In addition to maintenance, upgrading and periodic reconfiguration of facilities, activities will also include the generation of larvae and medium-long term maintenance adult fish populations with a strong focus on fish welfare. This will involve the working with a specialized team of animal workers (varying in number based on project funding). The role will also involve close co-ordination with scientific researchers regarding the supply of fish for experiments, and collaboration with researchers

regarding preparation of facilities for experiments, maintenance and monitoring of fish welfare during experiments.

## PROFILE

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### Lab technician

- ▶ Bachelor level.
- ▶ Lab experience in cell culture and/or molecular biology.

### Animal technician

- ▶ Higher technical education diploma or technical bachelor level. This position is not limited to candidates with a bachelor's degree, the choice of the person will be mainly based on experience and expertise.
- ▶ Motivated, energetic, proactive, and independent person
- ▶ Great adaptability
- ▶ Experience in maintaining, monitoring, and upgrading freshwater fish aquaculture facilities.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

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- ▶ Fixed-term contract (31/12/2022), full time
- ▶ Bachelor's degree: grade: first specialist agent  
Basic gross monthly salary: € 2,329.16
- ▶ Upper secondary education diploma: grade: specialist agent  
Basic gross monthly salary: € 2,063.33

## HOW TO APPLY?

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Applications (cover letter and detailed CV) must be submitted to Professor Alain Vanderplasschen [a.vdplasschen@uliege.be](mailto:a.vdplasschen@uliege.be), as soon as possible. It is planned that this contract will commence as soon as possible.