Announcement of Agilent Fellows Program

Agilent Technologies and the USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience announce the Agilent Fellows program. The new postdoctoral fellows program is accepting applicants to start in 2021.

Agilent and the USC Michelson Center have entered into a broad partnership that includes the Agilent Center of Excellence in Biomolecular Characterization featuring first-in-class research instruments ranging from advanced mass spectrometry, chromatography, robotic high-throughput reaction screening, genomics, and optical characterization.

Agilent Fellows will be immersed in the ground-breaking research being conducted at the USC Michelson Center, including affiliated faculty with labs across the University Park Campus. Selected fellows will work with a primary mentor at USC and also have a unique mentoring experience with an Agilent Research Labs scientist. She or he will have opportunities to be a part of a research exchange program with Agilent. This program will help advance the fellows individual research interests and provide avenues for distinctive career growth.

An Agilent postdoc will be selected for a non-renewable two-year fellowship. Strong preference will be given to new postdocs coming to USC who are recent graduates or are about to graduate with their PhD. Applicants should contact a potential advisor to discuss appropriate projects which could be developed into a full proposal, with the selected advisor, before completing their application. A list of PIs at USC eligible to mentor an Agilent Fellow can be found at michelson.usc.edu/research/agilent/fellows/.

Agilent Fellows will receive annually a $72,000 stipend as well as university postdoctoral benefits. In addition, the Agilent Fellow will be assigned $10,000/yr. in research funds that can be applied at the Fellow’s discretion to attending scientific conferences, visiting Agilent researchers, as well as other collaborators, and/or to research-related supplies for the Fellow’s project.
Eligibility
Ideal candidates will be currently completing their PhD and seeking a unique postdoctoral research opportunity. To be eligible, a candidate will:

- have already received their PhD in a relevant science or engineering field or expect to receive their PhD before January 31, 2021, and
- be interested in research broadly that will advance bio-instrumentation for new applications in life sciences important to both the USC research community and the scientific community at large.

Fellow Selection Criteria
Successful applicants will be selected based on:

- a track record of research productivity and impact,
- evidence of growing independence as demonstrated in the research proposal,
- alignment with specified focus of the award,
- potential for a career in academia or a position of transformative leadership in industry.

Application
Applicants will be evaluated based on academic achievement, and their potential to contribute to research at the intersection of basic research in biosciences and engineering, and advanced life sciences instrumentation. One fellowship will be awarded each year for a two-year term. We expect a new round of selection each Fall through 2021.

Applicants should submit:

- An online application that can be found here: https://michelson.usc.edu/research/agilent/fellows/
- A cover letter stating the applicant’s background, motivation and career interest.
- A 2-page CV with a list of publications and presentations.
- A 5-page maximum research proposal (12-point Times Roman, single-spaced, standard margins). The proposal should name their prospective USC advisor and detail an independent research project, with appropriate citation to the scientific literature. (An additional page may be used for references.) In addition, the proposal should describe resources required for the proposed project and how these are met either in the host PI’s laboratory or through the shared core facilities in the USC Michelson Center.
- A letter of support from the prospective advisor at USC, indicating the advisor’s commitment to provide the required equipment and supplies for the described research project.
- Three academic letters of recommendation, including one from the candidate’s PhD advisor, sent directly to us.

The application deadline is December 15, 2020 and the selection committee will meet soon thereafter. Submissions received after midnight Pacific Time of 12/15/2020 will not be accepted.

All candidate materials should be submitted as a single PDF to agilentfellows@usc.edu.

Confidential letters of recommendation should be transmitted directly from each referee and sent to agilentfellows@usc.edu.

For questions related to this fellowship, please contact program coordinator at agilentfellows@usc.edu.

About Agilent Technologies
Agilent Technologies Inc. (NYSE: A) is a global leader in life sciences, diagnostics and applied chemical markets. With more than 50 years of insight and innovation, Agilent instruments, software, services, solutions, and people provide trusted answers to its customers’ most challenging questions. The company generated revenues of $5.6 billion in fiscal 2019 and employs 16,300 people worldwide. Information about Agilent and Agilent Labs is available at www.agilent.com.

About the USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience
The USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience brings together a diverse network of scientists and engineers from the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering as well as partners in the Keck School of Medicine of USC, the USC School of Pharmacy and the USC School of Cinematic Arts, to solve some of the intractable problems of the 21st century. With a generous $50 million gift from Gary K. Michelson, a retired orthopedic spinal surgeon, and his wife, Alya Michelson, the USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience occupies the largest building on campus, a state-of-the-art facility for USC to transform and influence the course of scientific discovery and biomedicine for generations to come. Information about the USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience is available at michelson.usc.edu.