

Professor Search in Quantitative Biosciences

Institute for Quantitative Biosciences, The University of Tokyo

About IQB

The Institute for Quantitative Biosciences (IQB), The University of Tokyo, is an interdisciplinary research institute that brings together quantitative and technology-driven approaches to life science, including neuroscience, immunology, disease biology, systems and synthetic biology, imaging and measurement technologies, single-cell and spatial biology, molecular and structural biology, computational biology, and genome, chromatin and RNA biology.

IQB aims to understand biological systems quantitatively across scales, from molecules and cells to tissues, organisms, disease states and behaviour.

The institute is entering a major period of renewal in connection with the University of Tokyo's emerging academic-unit strategy and broader research-strengthening reforms. IQB seeks to recruit a scientist who can help shape the institute's next phase.

This search is not intended as a narrow replacement appointment. It is a strategic recruitment for a scientist with the originality, vision and leadership potential to contribute to IQB's future scientific direction.

IQB will provide a research environment appropriate for an internationally competitive research programme, including access to institute facilities, interdisciplinary collaborations, and support for establishing an independent research group. Details of laboratory space, start-up support, and other appointment conditions will be discussed with shortlisted candidates and are subject to University procedures.

Candidate profile

We welcome applications from scientists with an internationally recognized record of original and influential research.

The ideal candidate will have:

- a strong record of major discoveries, conceptual advances or enabling technologies;
- a bold and forward-looking research programme;
- the ability to develop, integrate or deploy technologies that open new biological questions;
- a broad scientific vision connecting multiple scales of life science;
- the capacity to lead interdisciplinary research;
- a commitment to mentoring, research culture and the development of younger scientists;
- the potential to contribute to IQB-wide strategy and international partnerships.

We actively welcome applications from candidates across a wide range of research areas. Relevant areas include, but are not limited to:

- neuroscience and behavioural biology
- immunology, cancer biology and disease biology
- systems and synthetic biology
- quantitative imaging and measurement technologies
- single-cell, spatial and multi-omics technologies
- structural and molecular biology
- computational biology and quantitative modelling
- genome, chromatin and RNA biology
- programmable biological intervention and molecular/cellular engineering

Role and expectations

The successful candidate will be expected to:

- establish and lead an internationally competitive research programme at IQB;
- contribute to IQB's future research direction and institutional strategy;
- interact productively with existing IQB research groups;
- contribute to academic-unit formation and technology-platform development;
- mentor students, postdoctoral fellows and junior researchers;
- participate in institute-level activities and international collaborations;
- strengthen IQB's global profile.

Application materials

Applicants should submit the following materials through the application portal. All candidates must submit their application themselves.

1. Personal details

Name, current position, institution, contact information and relevant personal details required for the application process.

2. Academic background

Education, degrees, training history and previous appointments.

3. Title of proposed future research programme

A concise title for the research programme the applicant would establish at IQB.

4. Brief summary of the proposed research programme

Maximum 50 words. This should summarize the central aim of the proposed research programme in language accessible to a broad life-science audience.

5. Major discoveries, developments or research outputs

Maximum 200 words. Please describe what you have discovered or developed and why it is important. Applicants may highlight up to three research outputs, including papers, technologies, datasets, methods, conceptual advances, platforms or other forms of scientific contribution.

6. Scientific vision

Maximum 200 words. Please describe the scientific vision of your proposed research programme. What major question will you address? What new direction will your work open? Why is IQB an appropriate place to pursue this programme?

7. Contributions to diversity, inclusion, mentoring and research culture

Maximum 150 words. Please describe contributions you have made to your department, institution, field or scientific community that promote diversity, inclusion, mentoring, responsible research practice or the development of a positive research culture.

8. Interaction with IQB

Maximum 150 words. Please describe how your research programme would interact with, complement or strengthen ongoing IQB activities. Applicants are encouraged to explain possible links to existing IQB research areas, technology platforms, academic-unit strategy and international partnerships.

9. Curriculum vitae

A full CV, including publication list, funding history, invited talks, honours, mentoring record and relevant service or leadership roles.

10. Most important publications

Up to five PDF files from the publications listed above.

11. Past research statement

Up to two pages. Please summarize your past research achievements, highlighting originality, significance and your own contribution.

12. Future research plan

Up to two pages. Please describe the research programme you would establish at IQB, including major questions, approaches, expected impact and how the programme would develop over the next five to ten years.

13. Referees

Please provide the names and contact information of three referees. Reference letters may be requested from shortlisted candidates during the selection process.

14. Three-minute video

Applicants should submit a video of up to three minutes introducing themselves and their research vision. The purpose is to help the recruitment panel understand how the applicant thinks about and communicates their science. Production quality will not be assessed; a simple recording is sufficient.

Suggested video content:

- who you are;
- what you have discovered or developed;
- what you want to build at IQB;
- why your programme matters;
- how your work could contribute to the future of IQB.

Search process

The search will be conducted internationally and the advertisement will be distributed widely through online platforms, universities, research institutes and relevant scientific networks.

The process is expected to include:

1. international advertisement and wide dissemination;
2. initial review of applications;
3. shortlisting with input from IQB's Advisory Council;
4. seminar and/or interview stage;
5. chalk talk or research vision discussion;
6. reference review;
7. final evaluation under the University of Tokyo's formal appointment and employment procedures.

Additional materials may be requested from shortlisted candidates. Applications will be reviewed from September 30. The search will remain open until the position is filled, subject to University procedures.

Application link

Applications should be submitted through:

<https://univtokyo.sharepoint.com/:f/t/Teams.iqbjinji.iqb/IqDJIRaslj0TSJMpYPxaq8irASbg9u6-90gH7rZ46Gs90x4>

Questions about the search may be addressed to:

soumu_at_iqb.u-tokyo.ac.jp (please replace _at_ with @)