The University of California Davis is one of the premier centers for scientific excellence in the nation and is consistently ranked as one of the very best public universities worldwide. Faculty at UC Davis are engaged in cutting edge research across a wide range of disciplines in the Life Sciences, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. Within the Department of Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior (NPB), faculty are engaged in internationally renowned research into in the areas of metabolism, exercise and neuroscience. Our mission is to increase our understanding of basic physiology and to build on this knowledge to find cures to conditions that affect people.

The Department of NPB is currently seeking highly motivated individuals for a Postdoctoral Research Associate position. The Postdoctoral Research Associate will work in the Islet Biology Laboratory headed by Dr. Mark O. Huising in the area of islet cell maturation and paracrine crosstalk within the islet (see www.huisinglab.com for details). Possible projects revolve around 1) the contribution of pancreatic delta cells to the control of glucagon and insulin secretion from healthy pancreatic islets and during conditions of diabetes an 2) the processes that determine the fate and function of beta cells in health and disease. To this end, you will observe islet cell behavior over time using confocal microscopy and follow up your observations by mechanistic studies in state-of-the-art mouse models and approaches such as continuous glucose monitoring. This work requires the isolation of islets from mice and/or rats and the procurement of human islets from approved repositories, followed by their culture in vitro prior to the acquisition of functional readouts by the measurement of hormone secretion or calcium responses. It is expected that a significant amount of effort can be expended towards the continued development of tools and techniques the increase the quality and rate of data collection from intact islets. Extensive experience and expertise in islet biology and primary cell culture are required, experience with peptide hormone signaling, small rodent models and confocal microscopy will be viewed favorably. You are expected to contribute to and enhance our highly collaborative research environment.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate motivation, independence, inquisitiveness, and a strong work ethic. Teamwork and collaboration will be critical for success in this position. Excellent verbal and written English communication skills are essential. Remuneration commensurate with experience in accordance with NIH guidelines for postdoctoral research associates. Your primary worksite location is 180 Briggs Hall, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA.

Qualifications:
• Must have a PhD in Biology, Physiology and be < 5 years from receipt of PhD.
• Experience in the field of diabetes and/or pancreatic islet biology expected.
• Proficiency with routine molecular and histological techniques is expected.
• Prior knowledge and experience in the isolation and culture of mouse islets would be helpful
• Proficiency handling rodents, maintaining transgenic mouse colonies and conducting routine experiments such as glucose tolerance tests and minor surgical procedures on mice would be viewed favorably.
• Experience with confocal microscopy of live or fixed specimens will be viewed favorably.

To receive full consideration for the position, candidates must apply by February 15th. Candidates should email their curriculum vitae with publications record and a cover letter detailing the
scientific skills outlined above, understanding of our science, alignment of your career goals and position, and contact information for three references to: mhuising@ucdavis.edu.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy see: http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct.

Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UCSC positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available http://www.uscis.gov/e-verify.

UC Davis is a smoke & tobacco-free campus (http://breathefree.ucdavis.edu/).