

January 1, 0000

Isabel Allende
123 Magical Realist Writers Street
San Francisco, CA 94122
111.222.3333
Literature@email.edu

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to inquire about the scientist job [#0000000] posted on the PharmaCompany website within the protein-engineering department and to express my interest in contributing to your work in this field.

With an extensive background in both enzymology and bioinformatics, I believe that I would bring an unusually valuable mix of skills and perspectives to the projects being launched in this field. While working in the laboratory of Toni Morrison, I have learned how the study of molecular evolution can guide scientific discoveries. Understanding nature's strategy to conscript protein scaffold to deliver a wide array of functions can reveal important insights into the protein structure-function relationship. Using mechanistically diverse superfamily framework, I have mastered methodologies in identifying and clustering a large number of homologous proteins into their respective families and superfamilies.

Placing these proteins in the context of a superfamily will allow us to:

- Gain valuable insight in to protein function.
- Identify common structural features that can be associated with common chemistry.
- Study protein ligand interaction and assess the scope of cross-reactivity.
- Identify close homologues for directed evolution to engineer new protein function.
- Identify candidate genes for a pathway engineering.

Including bioinformatics, my training in enzymology enables me to understand detailed enzyme reaction mechanisms and their interaction with potential drugs. My ability to design and execute necessary experiments to understand functional mechanism allows me to run projects independently. My understanding of interdisciplinary science also gives me a unique opportunity to interact and collaborate effectively with scientists from different areas.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our mutual research interests and to explore ways in which I could make a contribution to PharmaCompany's protein engineering program.

Sincerely,

Isabel Allende

The Position Description:

Responsibilities:

We are seeking an energetic and creative scientist to join the Protein Engineering Department. The department engages in a wide range of research, including structural biology, engineering of protein function, development of molecular evolution methods, and understanding chemical aspects of protein structure and molecular recognition. We are seeking candidates with abilities in synthetic chemistry coupled with research interests in the area of protein structure-function studies, with a particular emphasis on biological target validation. Training in chemical biology (e.g., phenotypic screening, proteomics, cellular imaging, pathway engineering, etc.), experience in biophysical methods, and a strong interest in biology would be assets.

Requirements:

PhD in chemistry or related field with postdoctoral research experience. Candidates should have a strong publication record and have demonstrated exceptional potential for innovative research. An ability to tackle interdisciplinary problems and strong communication skills are required.