

The Ivanovic Laboratory at Brandeis University (www.tijanaivanovic.net) has a Postdoc opportunity for a Cell Biologist to join an interdisciplinary effort aimed at uncovering viral strategies of adaptation that can lead to outbreaks or pandemics.

About us:

Viral outbreaks and pandemics arise when animal viruses adapt so that they can recognize human cells as their host. The current coronavirus outbreak in China is an example of such a zoonotic event. However, we lack the ability to predict or prevent such adaptation events even for viruses such as influenza virus that are known to pose a threat. Recent research in the Ivanovic lab has revealed that the size and organization of influenza virus particle structure plays a direct role in permitting viral adaptation (<https://doi.org/10.1101/843177>), setting the stage for discovery of novel treatments targeting viral ability to adapt to external pressure. Furthermore, we are probing the existence of analogous adaptation strategies among structurally related human pathogens, such as Ebola virus, measles, and RSV.

About the position:

We are looking for a candidate interested in identifying host factors enabling viral adaptation to selective pressure on viral cell-entry machinery. The project builds upon our recently published insights, and will benefit from a body of preliminary data. We are looking for an independent and motivated individual with strong skills in cell biology. Background in virology, molecular biology, and/or CRISPR technology is a further plus. The position comes with a built-in opportunity to train in advanced microscopy/single-molecule approaches.

To apply:

Qualified candidates should email Tijana Ivanovic (ivanovic AT brandeis DOT edu) directly with a cover letter, CV, and contact information for three references.