

Assoc. Director / Director / Sr. Director, Medicinal Chemistry*

Location: South San Francisco, CA

THE COMPANY

Third Rock Ventures is launching a new company focused on reinventing drug discovery for G-Protein Coupled Receptors (GPCRs), a large class of membrane proteins that regulate fundamental physiological processes which have proven to be one of the most fruitful classes of drug targets, and there is still tremendous untapped opportunity for new GPCR-targeted medicines. The company's Native Complex drug discovery platform integrates a range of next-generation drug discovery technologies to access unprecedented chemical diversity, and the company is focusing this platform on high-value challenges including development of small molecule drugs for peptide-sensing GPCRs, first-in-class GPCR allosteric modulator drugs, and drugs for historically "undruggable" GPCR targets. The company has initiated multiple early-stage drug discovery programs and plans to become a fully integrated therapeutics company with capabilities spanning research, clinical development, and commercial operations.

THE ROLE

We are seeking an experienced medicinal chemistry leader to direct our chemistry efforts for one or more of our drug discovery programs. Reporting to the SVP, Drug Discovery, this individual will be responsible for the design and synthesis of compounds from hit identification through the selection of drug candidates for clinical development. He/she will also have opportunities to serve as a cross-functional project team leader for drug discovery programs, leading efforts from early discovery through IND filing. As one of the company's first medicinal chemists, this individual will also contribute to establishing the company's internal chemistry capabilities and outsourced chemistry relationships. The successful candidate will become a scientific thought leader within our R&D organization, contributing drug discovery insights to all projects as well as ideas for new therapeutic programs. This will be an outstanding opportunity to collaborate with talented colleagues who all share a passion for developing new therapeutics that will make a difference for patients.

*Title commensurate with experience.

QUALIFICATIONS

This position requires a PhD in organic chemistry with at least 8-10 years of drug discovery experience in a biotechnology or pharmaceutical setting. The ideal candidate will have experience leading chemistry efforts for programs spanning multiple target classes and therapeutic indications, and a track record of driving one or more programs which have yielded drug candidates entering clinical development. He/she will have deep expertise in medicinal chemistry, experience with structure-based drug design, and experience advancing compounds from early hit identification through candidate selection. The successful candidate will also have an outstanding scientific reputation within the medicinal chemistry community and a reputation as an emerging leader.

REQUIREMENTS

- Extensive experience in medicinal chemistry including optimization of physicochemical and pharmaceutical properties relevant for small molecule drug development is required, and experience with structure-based drug design is strongly preferred.

- Contemporary expertise in all aspects of synthetic organic chemistry ranging from modern synthetic methodologies to techniques for compound purification and characterization and parallel synthesis.
- Strong quantitative intuition including experience analyzing large SAR data sets to drive lead optimization and analysis of HTS data sets to identify candidates for hit expansion and early hit-to-lead chemistry.
- Drug discovery experience with multiple target classes is preferred, and specific experience with GPCR drug discovery and/or development of allosteric modulators is a plus.
- Cross-functional appreciation for computational chemistry, analytical chemistry, assay development and HTS, DMPK, pharmacology, and preclinical toxicology.
- A track record of successful management of external teams of chemists at contract research organizations is required. Experience recruiting and mentoring PhD-level chemists and leading cross-functional project teams is preferred.
- Outstanding communication skills with demonstrated ability to make effective presentations in a broad range of settings, and strong collaboration, leadership, and organizational skills.
- The successful candidate will be motivated to discover new disease-modifying therapeutics for patients and enjoy working in a fast-paced dynamic team environment.

Any interested candidates should contact Chris Passmore – cpassmore@ThirdRockVentures.com

We are an Equal Opportunity employer and will consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran status, or disability status.

Note to Employment Agencies: Please do not forward any agency resumes. The company will not be responsible for any fees related to resumes that are unsolicited.