



Funded by
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TO BE PUBLISHED ONLINE

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

(For submission of proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract)

The Research Committee (Special Account for Research Funds) of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (ELKE AUTH), in the framework of the project "**Advanced Sustainable Biofuels Production from Purified Microalgae and Oleaginous Yeasts via Integrated Solar Hydrothermal Liquefaction**" funded under European Committee HORIZON 2021-2027, with Academic Head Prof. Christos Chatzidoukas (School of Chemical Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), invites candidates to submit proposals for **two (2) positions** as described below, through the award of a project contract, for a period of 12 months from the signing of the contract, and with a total anticipated remuneration €36.400,00 (VAT and taxes included). Contracts can be extended until the end date of the project: 48 months from the date of signing the funding agreement (in case of extension until its completion) and within the approved limits of its budget and up to the amount of €47.600,00.

One (1) person / University Graduate (UG) in Chemical Engineering / up to €18,200.00 / for up to 12 months from the signing of the contract (extension amount up to €23,800.00)

1. Project Description (A)

The subject of the project to be assigned is the dynamic simulation and optimization of a holistic system of coupled microalgae and oleaginous yeast cultures for biofuel production, with the development of hybrid multi-scale models. The researcher will be involved in the development and application of mechanistic models on the gPROMS© process systems simulation platform, with the aim to simulate the dynamic behavior of both the individual cultures of photosynthetic microalgae and heterotrophic oleaginous yeasts, as well as the holistic microbial cultivation system. In a later stage of the study, the researcher will also work on the application of artificial intelligence algorithms for the continuous improvement and adaptation of cultivation conditions, experimentally validating the responses and predictions of the hybrid model (mechanistic model with integrated learning models).

The above work will be carried out within the framework of the following Work Package:

WP2: Sustainable production of mixed biomass feedstock aligned with circular economy principles.

The candidate must collaborate effectively with the rest of the project team.

2. Required Qualifications

- University Degree in Chemical Engineering
- Proven knowledge in microorganism cultivation and conducting chemical analyses of microorganisms' biomass
- Proven knowledge in the use of process mathematical modeling tools

Note: The knowledge must be documented with a relevant certificate or relevant thesis/diploma/doctoral dissertation, or through relevant courses in the study program (transcripts, and if the course title does not directly indicate the correlation, the transcript should be accompanied by a course description from the Study Guide), or by teaching related courses (certificate from the institution or/and contract).

- Good knowledge of the English language (B2 level).

3. Additional Qualifications

- Additional knowledge of the English language
- Announcements at international scientific conferences on topics related to the cultivation and characterization of microalgae
- Computer skills in the areas of a) word processing, b) spreadsheets, and c) internet services
- Interview

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2a	Foreign language (Level C2)	70
2b	Foreign language (Level C1)	50
3	Announcements in scientific conferences (per announcement) – 6 max	15 (per announcement)
4	Computer skills	50
5	Interview (The evaluation criteria are specified and graded)	≤120

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

One (1) person / University Graduate (UG) in Chemical Engineering / up to €18,200.00 / for up to 12 months from the signing of the contract (extension amount up to €23,800.00)

1. Project Description (B)

The subject of the project to be assigned includes:(a) the development of optimal cultivation conditions for the production of cellular biomass from microalgae and oleaginous yeasts, with emphasis on increasing lipid content and maximizing total biomass production,(b) the development of resource recycling strategies between the two cultivation systems,(c) the design and optimization of 'green' methods for lipid extraction and recovery from microalgae and yeast biomass, and (d) the economic and environmental assessment of the proposed new biorefinery co-exploitation of microalgae and yeasts.

The above work will be carried out within the framework of the following Work Package:

WP2: Sustainable production of mixed biomass feedstock aligned with circular economy principles.

The candidate must collaborate effectively with the rest of the project team.

2. Required Qualifications

- University Degree in Chemical Engineering
- Proven knowledge in microorganism cultivation and conducting biomass analyses of microorganisms
- Proven knowledge in scaling-up microalgae cultivation and in operating pilot-scale microalgae cultivation systems
Note: The knowledge must be documented with a relevant certificate or a related thesis/diploma/doctoral dissertation, or through relevant courses in the study program (transcripts, and if the course title does not directly indicate the correlation, the transcript should be accompanied by a course description from the Study Guide), or by teaching related courses (certificate from the institution or/and contract).
- Good knowledge of the English language (B2 level).

3. Additional Qualifications

- Master's degree (excluding the integrated master's degree awarded to graduates of Polytechnic Schools) in the field of Biochemical Engineering
- Additional knowledge of the English language
- Announcements at international scientific conferences related to the cultivation and characterization of microalgae
- Computer skills in the areas of a) word processing, b) spreadsheets, and c) internet services
- Interview.

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2	Master's degree of at least one-year duration (excluding the integrated master's degree awarded to graduates of Polytechnic Schools)	200
3a	Foreign language (Level C2)	70
3b	Foreign language (Level C1)	50
4	Announcements in scientific conferences (per announcement) – 6 max	15 (per announcement)
5	Computer skills	50
6	Interview (The evaluation criteria are specified and graded)	≤120

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

5. Required Documents:

1. Submission of Proposal - Statement (see appendix)
2. Detailed table data for the proof of experience, if needed (see appendix)
3. Detailed Curriculum Vitae
4. Copies of the Degrees
Special cases:
 - a) In cases where the degree grade is a qualification/criterion and is not indicated on the relevant copy of the degree, the transcript of records should be submitted in addition, otherwise the specific qualification requested will not be marked.
 - b) Postgraduate and PhD students should submit a recent certificate (within the last three months) from the relevant University Department, showing that they have the relevant status (postgraduate/PhD student) at the time of submission of the proposal,
 - c) If the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the degree:
 - For bachelor's and master's degrees, the transcript of records should be submitted,
 - For PhD candidates, if the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the subject of the doctoral thesis, as indicated on the registration certificate from University's Department Secretariat, any other certificate documenting the above, signed by the Secretariat or the supervisor or the three-member committee, should be submitted.
 - For PhD holders, if the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the doctoral degree, the electronic address of the doctoral thesis from the National Archive of Doctoral Dissertations should be included in the Curriculum Vitae. If the doctoral thesis was obtained from foreign institutions, the title and an abstract should be included in the Curriculum Vitae.
5. Copies of certificates and certifications of previous experience, as well as any other document that will certify the information mentioned in the CV and which are related to the Required or Additional qualifications-criteria of this call for expression of interest.
6. In order to prove that the criterion of publications in journals and/or conference announcements has been fulfilled, the candidate should include the required minimum information in the detailed CV, for journals, the title of the journal, the issue, the date of publication, the title of the publication, the authors, and for conferences, the title, the date and venue and a copy of the programme.

6. Interview

Candidates (for Project A and B) who meet all the conditions and required qualifications of the call will be invited for an interview (after written information by e-mail). Candidates who do not attend the interview will be rejected. It is not necessary to hold an interview if all the conditions and required qualifications of the call are met by a single proposal

The topics of the questions and the marking system to be used are shown in the following table:

Nr.	Interview topic	Level of Knowledge Units for Grading	Scoring range
1	Communication skills	Basic 0-9 Good 10-19 Excellent 20-30	0-30
2	Organisational skills	Basic 0-9 Good 10-19 Excellent 20-30	0-30
3	Crisis management	Basic 0-9 Good 10-19 Excellent 20-30	0-30
4	Understanding job requirements, project objectives and critical success factors	Basic 0-9 Good 10-19 Excellent 20-30	0-30

7. Submission of proposals

Proposals and required documents should be submitted either via e-mail to esemertz@cheng.auth.gr, carbon copied to chatzido@auth.gr, or in person or by post to the following address Department of Chemical Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Building E13, 4th floor, Office 402b, within hours 10:00-14:00 **no later than 21/10/2024 at 14:00**. Proposals will be attributed a reference number from the Secretariat of the Department of the Academic Head of the project.

8. Publication – Information

This Call will be published on the website of ELKE AUTH <https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga> and on the website of "Diavgeia".

For more information and questions regarding the position, candidates may refer to **00302310- 996167**. For information on the proposal submission process candidates may contact ELKE AUTH at **00302310-994082, 994052, 994053, 994055**.

9. Evaluation

Submitted proposals will be evaluated by a three-member Evaluation Committee in accordance with the procedure provided for in article 244 of Law 4957/2022 and in article 20 of the Funding and Project Management Guide of ELKE AUTH as applicable.

10. Objection

Candidates are informed of the results through the website of the ELKE AUTH (<https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga>) in the online posting of this call, as well as through the program Diavgeia. The candidate has the right to submit an objection against the results of this call (Decision of acceptance of results) within an exclusive period of five (5) calendar days from the day following the posting of the decision of acceptance of results on the website of the ELKE AUTH. The objection must be in writing and legally signed, accompanied by a photocopy of the objector's identity card and must be submitted either electronically at prosk@rc.auth.gr, or in person, or by post to the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (KEDEA Building, 3rd September - University Campus, Thessaloniki, P.O. Box 54636, 1st floor, Office 101). No objections may be raised on the grounds of interview or skill test.

The procedure for objections is defined by article 245 of Law 4957/2022 and article 20A of the Funding and Project Management Guide of the ELKE AUTH as applicable.

If the objection concerns the qualifications of one or more candidates, it is communicated to the latter by e-mail, at the discretion of MODY. Each of them has the right to submit their opinion by electronic or paper submission to the MODY within three (3) calendar days of the notification. All the above shall be forwarded to the Objections Committee. Candidates who will not submit any opinion in accordance with the procedure as described above, may not submit an objection to the new Decision on the acceptance of results of the Research Committee, which will be issued after the approval of the recommendation of the Objections Committee on the acceptance of the objection.

For the effective exercise of the right to submit an objection, candidates have the right to access the data of their individual candidature file and the evaluation-scoring documents, both of themselves and of their other candidates, upon written request within the objection submission deadline and under the conditions of articles 5 of Law 2690/1999, 42 of Law 4624/2019 and 6 par. 1(f) of the GDPR (EU 2016/679). The application shall be submitted in the same way as the objection.

Taking into account that the data of the candidates' individual files submitted for participation in this Call for Expression of Interest constitute personal data within the meaning of Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, the access of the other candidates to these data is possible under the terms of the legislation on personal data and Article 5 of the Code of Administrative Procedure, as well as in accordance with the conditions consistently accepted by the Hellenic Data Protection Authority (decision 28/2018). In any event, by submitting their application, candidates accept that the documents and supporting documents they submit may be issued to their fellow candidates, subject to the above conditions.

Both objections and requests for access to candidate file data must be legally signed, i.e. either with an electronic-digital signature (gov.gr or other legally granted digital signature), or with a handwritten signature. A photocopy of a document with a handwritten signature (scanned pdf file) will be given a same-day incoming file number but will be examined only if the original document will be submitted within five (5) calendar days.

Requests for access to data and objections that do not meet the above requirements will not be examined.

11. Personal data

ELKE AUTH takes all appropriate measures for the protection of personal data during the evaluation process and it is strongly recommended that you read about the data protection policy and your rights on the AUTH website <https://www.auth.gr/gdpr>.

OTHER CONDITIONS

1. From all the proposals submitted according to the above specifications, the one that best meets the project's requirements will be selected and awarded a work contract on the basis of contractual freedom.
2. Only proposals / objections that will be received by the set date and time will be considered. In the case of postal submission, the deadline is judged on the basis of the date mentioned in the shipping file, provided that it will be received by ELKE AUTH no later than the approval of the results. ELKE AUTH bears no responsibility for the content of the candidacy files that will be sent.
3. Changes to the proposals (replacements, corrections or submission of additional documents) are not allowed after the expiration of the deadline.
4. For the employment of teaching, research and scientific staff, the recognition of academic qualifications awarded by foreign institutions that are not accompanied by DOATAP - Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (Hellenic NARIC) recognition certificates, is based on the National Registry of Foreign Recognized Higher Education Institutes and the National Registry of Foreign Recognized Academic Title Types, <https://www.doatap.gr/anagnorish/mitroa>. If the degree is awarded by a foreign institution included in the list of article 307 of Law 4957/2022 (list of foreign institutions with a franchise agreement with private institutions in Greece), the candidate must submit a Certificate of Place of Study from the foreign institution. If the place of study or part of the studies is confirmed as the Greek territory, the degree is not recognised, unless the part of the studies undertaken in the Greek territory is in a public higher education institution. In addition, if the call for applications has a grading/marketing scale for the degree, candidates must provide a certificate of the Overall Mark from the foreign institution. The matching of marks is carried out according to the system of matching marks of domestic and foreign qualifications as defined by the decisions of the Plenary Board of the DOATAP (Proceedings 144/7.2.2014 and 145/14.2.2014) <https://www.doatap.gr/anagnorish/systima-antistoichias-vathmologisis-imedapon-kai-allodapon-titlon-spoudon/>. In case of failure to provide a certificate of the overall final grade, the proposal will not be rejected, but the specific qualification requested will not be marked.
5. For the employment of administrative, technical and other staff, academic qualifications, if they are required or taken into account and have been awarded by foreign institutions, must be accompanied by certificates of recognition of DOATAP-Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (Hellenic NARIC). In addition, if the call for applications has a grading/marketing scale for the degree, a certificate of equivalence issued by the DOATAP is required. If the certificate of equivalence of marks is not provided, and only the certificates of recognition issued by the DOATAP are submitted, the candidate's proposal will not be rejected, but the specific qualification requested will not be marked.
6. It is pointed out that the procedure for submitting proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract is not competitive, while the selection of a contractor has the character of accepting the proposal and not "recruitment". The evaluation process will be completed by compiling a ranking list and / or a list of excluded, while those selected will be notified individually. In case of a tie, the proposal of the interested person is selected in order a) with the longest experience, b) with the highest bachelor's degree mark, c) with the highest master's degree mark.
7. The proposal that is first in the ranking table and has the highest score in all the scoring criteria will be the one that will be selected. In case of obstruction of the person who submitted it, the next proposal is selected until the ranking order is exhausted.
8. Any submitted proposal that does not meet the criteria of the call of the expression of interest will not be examined any further and will be automatically rejected.
9. Throughout the execution of the project and according to the terms of the contract, following a relevant decision of the Research Committee, the selected person may be replaced by the next candidate in the ranking order, either due to his/her resignation or due to improper execution of the contract, following a written notice of termination of the contract that will be duly served on him/her and after the deadline for compliance set in the same document has expired without effect.
10. The contract may be extended without restriction, following a decision of the competent body of ELKE AUTH and if the required budget of the project allows it, without a new invitation, until the end date of the project (and in case of extension of the project until its new end date).
11. ELKE AUTH does not undertake any commitment to conclude a contract, as it is left to its full discretion to conclude or not contracts, as well as their number, excluding any claim of the interested parties.
12. The project assignment will take place in accordance with the provisions of the Program Implementation Guide.
13. The knowledge of foreign languages is certified in accordance with the provisions of the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A' 232/17.12.2022), especially according to the articles 10, 14 par. 3 and 15 par. 7.
14. Foreign documents must be accompanied by photocopies of their official translation into the Greek language except for English, French, German, Italian and Spanish language certificates which, if they meet the conditions of the P.D. 85/2022, are accepted without requiring their translation.
15. For candidates, computer skills shall be certified according to the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A' 232/17.12.2022), especially according to the article 9.
16. It should be noted that the project assignment to candidates employed in the Public Sector, in Public and Private Bodies, etc. is subject to the prohibitions/restrictions imposed by national legislation, the regulatory framework of the project management and the Funding and Management Guide of ELKE AUTH.

The Legal Representative

Kyriakos Yakinthos
Vice-Rector for Research & Innovation of AUTH
Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL - STATEMENT*
(with consequences of law on false/inaccurate statement)

Name: Surname:

Mobile phone: E-mail: VAT or password number:

Please note in this proposal - statement and outside of the postal file the following

(To be completed by the candidate):

1. The reference number of this call

2. The code of project object you would like to participate (A,B,)

I affirm that:

- a. I have read and understood all the terms of this Call, which I accept unconditionally,
- b. the information given in all the forms in this proposal is accurate and true,
- c. I give my explicit and unconditional consent to the collection and processing of my personal data, as indicated in this proposal and in the documents submitted with it, exclusively for the purposes of implementing this Call for expressions of interest, including the posting of the results thereof on DIAVGEIA, in accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Law 4624/2019.

SIGNATURE

Date : ___/___/_____

Find attached : 1.
2.

**Incomplete filling of the proposal – statement constitutes a criterion for exclusion*