

FULL PROFESSOR POSITION IN GENERAL SURGERY HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SURGERY HFR (100%)

The Faculty of Science and Medicine of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, announces the opening of a position of Full Professor in General Surgery. This chair simultaneously holds the position of head of general surgery at the Fribourg Hospital HFR. The general surgery at the HFR covers the following disciplines: general & visceral surgery, vascular surgery, thoracic surgery, paediatric surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery and urology.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The successful candidate should be an MD or MD/PhD, specialist in general surgery (ISFM or equivalent), the title of specialist in visceral surgery is an asset (ISFM or equivalent), and have a broad experience in clinical activity, research and teaching at university level.

The professorship consists of 50% academic activity at the University and 50% clinical activity at the Fribourg Hospital (HFR).

The applicant should have a habilitation or equivalent, in addition to a strong track record of independent research in the field of visceral surgery. The candidate is expected to develop an internationally recognized competitive research programme sustained by external funding.

The **research** will be developed, based on the academic expertise of the candidate. Given the different interests between the research groups in Fribourg, synergies within the Faculty of Science and Medicine and with the departments of the hospital will be encouraged. The future professor will also supervise Master theses, Doctorates (MD and PhD), and participate in the promotion of upcoming scientists and academics.

The future professor will take part in the current educational programme at Bachelor and Master levels. The appointed candidate is expected to play an active role in the **teaching** of a full curriculum of Master of Medicine (with an emphasis on family medicine). This Master programme launched in autumn 2019 and is a collaborative programme between the University of Fribourg, the *hôpital fribourgeois* (HFR), the Mental Health Network of Fribourg (RFSM) and regional general practitioners. The future professor should have a strong record in teaching. Due to the high academic level of the Master programme, a formal training in medical education or in higher education is advantageous (this can be acquired after nomination). The University of Fribourg and the HFR are bilingual (French/German). Knowledge of the second language (level B1 oral) is expected. If this is not the case, it must be acquired within two years of taking up the position.

Good organizational and communication skills are also expected, as well as a track record of effective team working and collaborative efforts, including local and international networks.

The candidate also has to be a recognized teacher for **postgraduate education**. They should demonstrate experience in teaching residents and fellows in surgery. The continuation of the accreditation of the Department of general surgery at the HFR as a Category A training centre is mandatory.

Seeking to promote an equitable representation of women and men, the university and hospital strongly encourage applications from women.

Having signed the DORA declaration, the University of Fribourg emphasizes qualitative assessment of academic achievement.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Please apply exclusively via the official Faculty of Science and Medicine - University of Fribourg recruiting tool, by clicking on the following link: <https://scimed-recruiting.unifr.ch>.

Application Deadline: 30 November 2025.

The following documents should be uploaded via the weblink above:

1. a cover letter mentioning the position for which the candidate is applying (Professor of General Surgery)
2. a complete curriculum vitae
3. a complete list of publications (highlighting specifically the 5 most important contributions)
4. a detailed record of teaching experience
5. a record of past and present funding
6. a 1-2-page description of the research that the candidate intends to conduct in Fribourg
7. a record of leadership and/or management experience
8. a proposal of a potential future clinical concept of the unit of general surgery at the Fribourg Hospital HFR
9. the names and email addresses of three persons who could be contacted as referees

ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

The Medicine Section belongs to a joint Faculty of Science and Medicine of the University of Fribourg, which facilitates cooperation between medicine and basic science disciplines such as physics, chemistry and biology and offers many possibilities for collaboration and shared use of infrastructure.

Sections and Departments

The Science Section is composed of six departments and five institute, the Medicine Section is composed of five departments and one institute (see <http://www.unifr.ch/scimed/fr/org>).

The Medicine Section of the Faculty of Science and Medicine currently hosts 29 professors, organised in five departments: Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular System (EMC); Community health (MPH), Medical and Surgical Specialties (MSS), Neurosciences and Movement Science (NMS) and Oncology, Microbiology and Immunology (OMI). The section covers different teaching domains, namely Morphological Sciences, Physiology, Immunology, Sport Sciences, Basic Clinical Sciences (Pathology, Microbiology and Pharmacology), Clinical Medicine (Cardiology, Neurology, Endocrinology, Psychiatry and Family Medicine), Medical Humanities as well as expertise in Medical Education. Clinical teaching is provided in collaboration with the HFR (hôpital fribourgeois) and the RFSM (Réseau fribourgeois de santé mentale) and the general practitioners.

For the implementation of the Master of Medicine the following professorships were created: medical education, family medicine, paediatrics, psychiatry and psychotherapy, general surgery, orthopaedic surgery, prevention and public health, general internal medicine, specialized internal medicine (oncology), gynaecology/obstetrics, geriatrics and emergency medicine.

A president who is elected for 2 years amongst its professors leads the Medicine Section. Major decisions are taken by the Section Council, which includes representatives from students and academic and administrative/technical staff. The professor of General surgery will join the Department of Medical-Surgical Specialties.

Study programmes

The Medicine Section offers full Bachelor degree curricula: a BMed in Human Medicine, a BSc in Biomedical Sciences and a BSc in Sport Sciences and Motor Control. In addition, two Master of Science degree curricula are offered: an MSc in Sport Sciences and Motor Control and a specialized MSc in Experimental Biomedical Research.

Since September 2019, the Master of Medicine prepares 40 medical students yearly for the Swiss federal licencing examination (FLE) and is characterized by a strong interest in Family Medicine. The Master of Medicine heavily relies on outcome-based education and acquisition of competences (Entrustable Professional Activities/EPA). The major purpose of the programme is to favour clinical competences, communication abilities, economic and ethical thinking, as well as evidence-based medicine.

The postgraduate education at the Medicine Section is offered within the framework of a "doctoral school" together with the Universities of Geneva, Lausanne, Neuchâtel, Berne and Basel that runs a joint programme of invited lectures and summer schools for graduate students (the "Troisième Cycle Romand" programme). A special programme for training in neurosciences in collaboration with the University of Berne is also offered.

Research

Research conducted in the Medicine Section embraces a variety of topics, concentrated in six clusters: (i) cancer, immunology and microbiology; (ii) neuroscience; (iii) cardiovascular system, metabolism and endocrinology; (iv) medical humanities; (v) medical education and (vi) community and family medicine.

Further information on current research activities in the Medicine Section can be found on the Section website <https://www.unifr.ch/med/en/research/overview.html>.

CLINICAL ENVIRONMENT

The Hospital of Fribourg HFR

The *hôpital fribourgeois* (HFR) is an autonomous establishment, governed by public law, comprising four sites (Fribourg, Riaz, Tafers, Meyriez-Murten) and approximately 600 beds (<https://www.h-fr.ch/>).

The main site HFR Fribourg - Hôpital cantonal (350 beds) is located in the town of Fribourg and acts as the cantonal centre for all specialized services that are not available at the other hospitals. More than 3'700 collaborators, including 600 medical doctors, carry out the activity of the HFR.

The Psychiatric Hospital is located in Marsens and is integrated in the Fribourg Mental health network (<https://www.rfsm.ch/>).

The Department of General Surgery at the HFR

General organization

General surgery including all its specialties is grouped in one department at the HFR. Since October 2020, all inpatient surgical activities, which were carried out at three sites (Fribourg, Riaz and Tafers), are centralised at the HFR-Fribourg – Hôpital Cantonal. Patients are treated in French and German.

Organization of the Department of General Surgery at the HFR

The Department of General Surgery brings together the following disciplines under one management: general and visceral surgery, vascular surgery, thoracic surgery, paediatric surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery and urology. This organisation guarantees a wide and varied range of training for assistant doctors and heads of clinics as well as a pooling of personnel, infrastructure and administrative resources. There is therefore a centralised administrative management of the entire clinic, which includes all doctors and administrative staff. The nurses are under the responsibility of the Nursing Department but the medical management has always kept very close links with the Head Nurse and the ICUS in order to align the medical and nursing practices. Each specialty is organized as a unit with a certain degree of autonomy in terms of specific patient care and physician training.

Languages

The Department of General Surgery is bilingual, the site of Riaz is French speaking, the site of Tafers is German speaking and the sites of Fribourg and Meyriez are bilingual. The candidate is expected to interact and communicate with their staff and patients in both languages.

INFRASTRUCTURE, POSITIONS AND FUNDING

Infrastructure

Rooms and facilities

In addition to the usual facilities in the hospital (main office, secretaries), the Professor of General Surgery and their research unit will have their offices in the MAS building of the HFR campus of the University of Fribourg. Laboratories for basic research can be provided if necessary in the Faculty of Science and Medicine at UniFR Pérolles.

Computers

The University supplies all members of the research group (academic and technical staff) with PCs or Macs and appropriate office, reference, statistical and graphics software. Specific research software can also be supported for research purposes. IT support is provided by the Med-IT Team of the Section of Medicine

Positions

The new Professor of General Surgery will receive the following dotation:

- 50% MER (maître d'enseignement et de recherche / Lehr- und Forschungsrat)
- 50% Medical Resident (médecin assistant / Assistenzarzt)
- 50% study nurse
- access to the secretary pool of the Master of Medicine (about 15%) at HFR

Financial support

Set-up funding

- Installation credit for research activities, according to needs, based on the usual provision of the Faculty – Resources for IT material will be at the new professor's disposal

Running expenses

- Participation in the annual credits (operating, equipment, computing, library)
- Separate credits for teaching activities

CONTACT

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