

**Academic Assistant Staff PhD Position in Small Animal Surgery**  
Small Animal Department, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium

The Small Animal Department, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium is looking for a doctoral researcher with special interest in (clinical) research and pre-existing training in small animal surgery to engender our surgical team in a statutory academic assistant staff position, entailing 50% clinical activities and 50% research activities with a PhD finality within 6 years.

Profile

You hold a Master's degree in Veterinary Medicine. You are a veterinary surgeon with a background of advanced training, clinical experience and competence in small animal surgery. Preferably, you obtained board certification or eligibility by the European or American College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS or ACVS). Teaching experience and participation in post-academic courses and trainings are recommended.

Contribution to and scientific output of previous research activities is of added value.

Furthermore, you value a collegial team atmosphere and possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to constructively collaborate with others.

Dutch is the official language at Ghent University, but the majority of the staff and students are also fluent in English. Speaking or understanding Dutch or the willingness to learn Dutch is of added value, especially to allow communication with the pet-owners of the Small Animal Teaching Hospital.

Responsibilities

You will spend 50% of your assignment on scientific research in the context of the preparation of a doctoral thesis (PhD). The main topic of your research is open to discussion. The current research lines are on Portosystemic shunts, Wounds and Fluorescence-guided surgery but other research areas related to soft tissue surgery or neurosurgery can be explored.

Besides the research, your assignment involves 50% of clinical and teaching tasks. You will perform consultations in soft tissue and surgeries in soft tissue and neurosurgery in the Small Animal Teaching Hospital, while being involved in the clinical teaching of Master students in Veterinary Medicine, rotating interns of the Small Animal Department as well as the ECVS residents. You might also be involved in the supervision of clinically-oriented research studies within the field of small animal surgery.

You are expected to actively participate in the evening and weekend duty service of the Small Animal Teaching Hospital.

You must provide excellent health care, in close collaboration with the other specialists and veterinarians of the Small Animal Department.

### Small Animal Clinic Ghent University

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Ghent University is located next to the beautiful town of Ghent, 30 minutes from Brugge, Antwerp and Brussels.

Research is the engine of Ghent University. For the last decade, Ghent University has been listed in the Shanghai Ranking top 100 world universities and, for past 6 years, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Ghent University has been ranked as world's Top 1 in Veterinary Sciences.

The current surgical team consists of 4 DipECVS, 5 ECVS residents, and 6 PhD students.

The Small Animal Teaching Hospital is well-equipped (laparoscopy, thoracoscopy, endoscopy, bronchoscopy, cystoscopy, fluoroscopy, radiography, ultrasonography, CT, MRI, scintigraphy, ...) and the actual team includes dedicated Diplomates in surgery, internal medicine, neurology, cardiology, imaging and dermatology. We have approved residency-training programs in surgery, internal medicine, neurology, cardiology, imaging and dermatology. There is also a team of rotating interns and a team of after-hours emergency vets. The caseload for small animals is around 10,000 cases a year. More information about our Faculty can be found on <https://www.ugent.be/di/>.

### What can we offer?

We can offer a fulltime position as a statutory academic assistant staff (AAP). This is a position of 2 years that can be extended by another 2 years twice, thus leading to a successful doctoral thesis (PhD) defense within a time frame of 6 years.

The employment will start April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

Applications should include an updated CV, a letter of intent, as well as the name of 2 referees. Please send applications by email to [hilde.derooster@ugent.be](mailto:hilde.derooster@ugent.be), before January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

Please do not hesitate to contact Prof. Hilde de Rooster (DipECVS ; [hilde.derooster@ugent.be](mailto:hilde.derooster@ugent.be)).

We hope to welcome you soon in our team!