

Director of Human Sensory, Perception & Bio-Responses, Corporate R&D

Location: Geneva headquarters, Switzerland

Full-time, permanent position

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and coordinate, both via direct and dotted line reporting, a global team of scientists with expertise ranging from psycho-physics to sensory to cognitive sciences
- As a science leader, he/she will be expected to: a) leverage own knowledge and scientific network in order to propose new avenues of research, in alignment with the Company strategy; b) lead and critically review existing research programs; c) ensure the protection of intellectual assets; c) maintain Firmenich Brand image, including supporting the Business with ad hoc interactions with clients
- As a team manager, he/she will be tasked with attracting, developing, and retaining talents, establishing a succession plan, setting SMART objectives for team members, and evaluating their performance
- Support the line manager (VP Health Benefits and Bio-responses) with strategic thinking in own area of expertise, the definition of external partnerships, use of internal resources, and budget planning, as well as standing in on behalf of VP as the point of contact between R&D and Business.
- By interfacing with R&D, Business and the Fragrance & Flavors Creation Community, the incumbent will have the opportunity to actively participate in shaping the R&D strategy and to support its implementation
- Establish efficient communication with other R&D teams and business functions, both locally and globally

We value:

- PhD, or equivalent degree, in neuroscience, sensory or cognitive sciences or chemistry
- Minimum 10 years in similar or related roles in R&D, preferably with experience in an industrial setting
- A strong understanding of: a) the link between chemical compounds, their physical-chemical properties and their sensorial perception via olfaction and gustation; b) emotional valence associated to sensorial stimulation; c) cognitive integration of sensorial stimuli; d) knowledge of neuro-imaging and other techniques for emotional and behavioural measurement (verbalization, physiological, implicit etc.)
- Entrepreneurial spirit, clear-thinking pattern and proven scientific leadership, with a clear understanding of how to create business value from science
- Excellent communication and networking ability
- Fluent in English; knowledge of French or willingness to learn it is a plus

We offer:

- Join a highly socially and environmentally responsible company
- Work in global and intercultural environment
- A world-class infrastructure in a R&D center characterized by strong collaborative spirit between teams
- Encouragement to propose and initiate research programs
- Possibility to influence strategic decision-making