Postdoctoral Opportunity

Postdoctoral position in experimental evolution of host-microbiome associations, the Brucker Lab.

Job description: We seek an outstanding individual for a postdoctoral associate position to contribute to an ongoing project at the Rowland Institute at Harvard University in the laboratory of Robert Brucker. We are looking for candidates that are excellent bioinformaticists in genome and animal biology or in microbiology or microbial communities with a strong background in to investigate the mechanisms of host-microbiome interactions. Using an insect model system Nasonia, we are experimentally evolving populations of host animals exposed to xenobiotic toxins as environmental stressors. We are observing host and microbiome adaptation as new phenotypes emerge.

Experience analyzing large datasets with many variables—whole genome sequencing, transcriptomes, and metabolomics is preferred. Prospective applicants should have made significant contributions to their area of study, as evidenced by a strong publication record. We are seeking creative and highly motivated individuals who want to work in a dynamic, multi-disciplinary research environment.

We look for candidates with strong quantitative skills, proven time and project-management skills, ability to work in a small team environment and excellent communication skills. The position is for one year with potential for renewal with satisfactory performance. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Harvard University is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Required qualification: Ph.D. or equivalent by the time of job start in biology, evolution, genomics, bioinformatics, microbiology, evolution, statistics, or other appropriate field. Excellent experimental and organization skills.

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience in designing and executing experiments involving metagenomic, metatranscriptomic, and/or metabolomic profiling
- Experience with microbiome data analysis, elucidating host-microbiome interactions, and/or functional prediction of microbial systems using pathway analysis
- Fluency in standard bioinformatics tools, Python, Perl, and R
- Demonstrated ability to analyze high-dimensional biological datasets
- Excellent creativity, decision making, and troubleshooting skills
- Strong written and oral communication skills, as demonstrated through publications and presentations
- Experience with experimental evolution, disease ecology, ecological modeling or advanced statistics
- Evidence of intellectual leadership

To apply: email a CV, research statement cover letter and three letters of reference to brucker@rowland.harvard.edu Letters of reference can be uploaded directly by letter writers following instructions on the web page. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Harvard University is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply.