

Postdoctoral Researcher microbiome of seagrasses

We are seeking a postdoctoral researcher with expertise in microbiology, molecular ecology, and/or marine ecology for a collaborative project between Jonathan Eisen, Jay Stachowicz and Maggie Sogin in the Department of Evolution and Ecology at UC Davis. Applicants with experience manipulating the microbiomes of any plant or animal species are encouraged to apply.

The postdoc will work with Eisen, Stachowicz and Sogin on a collaborative project funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. The successful candidate will explore the role of varying microbial partners on the fitness of marine plants with a focus on eelgrass (*Zostera marina*). Eelgrass is a foundation species in coastal marine ecosystems and plays a key role in providing habitat for fishes and invertebrates, nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration and is the subject of active restoration efforts. The postdoc will develop and implement cultivation techniques to enable the manipulation of the seagrass microbiome to experimentally test the role of key microbial partners in modulating *Z. marina*'s health, growth, and survival.

The postdoc would be based on the UC Davis campus in the Department of Evolution and Ecology but the postdoc will also have access to people and resources at the UCD genome center, the Bodega Marine Lab, UC Merced, and surrounding environments. The postdoc will be encouraged to develop their own research project that furthers understanding of host-microbiome interactions in marine systems.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A Ph.D. in microbiology, ecology, marine sciences or a related field at the time of appointment.
- Strong attention to detail, evidenced by prior research especially in the context of laboratory and microbiology techniques
- Demonstrated ability to follow through on project deliverables and communicate findings in high quality peer-reviewed journals.
- Proponent of open science

We prefer candidates with any of the following:

- Experience with manipulating the microbiome of eukaryotic hosts, including knocking out/down host associated microbiome communities
- Experience using molecular techniques including qPCR and metagenomic sequencing
- Experience with bioinformatic pipelines for analyzing complex metagenomes

SALARY:

Salary and benefits are consistent with UC Davis policy and applicant experience. Salary for a 1st year Postdoc is \$53,460

TO APPLY:

Interested candidates should submit a CV, the names and contact information for three potential references, and a cover letter explaining the candidate's interest in the position and how their past research and future research goals fit within the position. The cover letter should also include the names and email addresses of two individuals who can serve as references. All materials should be submitted in PDF format to Eisen, Stachowicz, and Sogin (jaeisen@ucdavis.edu; jjstachowicz@ucdavis.edu; esogin@ucmerced.edu). Applications received by January 4, 2021 will receive full consideration, but the position is open until filled.

The position is available starting in late Spring 2021, with a preferred start date before July 1 2021, although some flexibility in this start date is possible for the ideal candidate. Questions about the position should be directed to Jonathen Eisen <jaeisen@ucdavis.edu>, Jay Stachowicz <jjstachowicz@ucdavis.edu> and Maggie Sogin <esogin@ucmerced.edu>. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer with a strong institutional commitment to the development of a climate that supports equality of opportunity and respect for differences.