

Gevo, Inc.
345 Inverness Drive South
Englewood, CO 80112

July 29, 2018

Dear Gevo Inc. representative,

Given my strong scientific background and interest in the generation of biofuels, I would make an excellent Fermentation Research Scientist and relish the opportunity to help advance environmentally friendly fuels, chemicals and feedstock. After a B.Sc. in Biology and participation in the iGEM (international Genetically Engineered Machine) competition, I received a M.Sc. in Biology before working with the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Rome. Across various research projects I have worked both independently and as part of a team, gaining strong problem-solving skills, precise attention to detail and excellent communication skills. Furthermore, I have a proven ability to quickly adapt to new challenges, maintain and troubleshoot laboratory equipment and provide quality controlled data.

Through my theses ([Publication](#)) I have developed excellent critical thinking skills and become well-versed in gathering, analyzing and quality checking scientific data with precise attention to detail. Furthermore, the wide array of lectures and courses I took in microbiology and translational biology has introduced me to molecular biology techniques, like gram staining and light microscopy, leaving me well-equipped to collect and interpret experimental data based on available literature. More generally, I adept well to new topics and environments and can quickly learn new procedures and protocols. For instance, during a reorganization of my lab, I consulted relevant literature to establish SOPs and the necessary quality control for the production of viral vector tools in mammalian cell culture. Here I monitored data to identify areas for improvement, provided recommendations to supervisors and incorporated suggestions.

During this time I also improved my aseptic technique, became more familiar with laminar flow hood use and different cell counting methods, and began working in a BSL2 environment - making me aware of the importance of stringently following safety guidelines. In my current position I have continued to build on previous experience in micropipetting, streaking cells for single colonies and preparing serial dilutions. While at EMBL, I also took the initiative to increase my proficiency in Microsoft, particularly Excel for data analysis, and taught myself how to use and improve the facility's database (FileMaker) to maintain electronic documentation alongside the lab notebook. Additionally, I have attended a professional course on presenting with impact and project management for scientists and am able to apply these techniques to balance multiple projects at once while managing my time to keep ahead of deadlines.

Working in an interdisciplinary team of 20 students during iGEM has prepared me to collaborate with Gevo's Analytical Chemists and to flourish in team environments while accomplishing common goals. This experience has left me ready to record and concisely communicate findings within the team and across departments. Through iGEM I honed my skills in the daily upkeep of a lab, including maintaining supply stocks, troubleshooting laboratory equipment, preparing media via accurate volumetric and gravimetric measurements and cleaning and sterilizing equipment using autoclaves or filter sterilization. Finally, I am used to flexible work hours and am willing to travel as required.

Working for Gevo is a natural continuation of my experience, skills and passions and I believe I could make valuable contributions to the transition from petroleum-based to low carbon fuels and chemicals. If you agree, I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the position and my skills in more detail. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you and will be following up next week.

Sincerely,

Rabea Jesser