

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN Sponge-Microbe Symbioses

A postdoctoral position is available in the area of sponge-microbe interactions and development of transfection methods for genome editing tools in freshwater sponges

The **Hill, Leys and Riesgo** labs are exploring host-symbiont interactions in an emerging model system the freshwater sponge *Ephydatia muelleri*. Funding is available for a two-year postdoctoral position to develop methods of transfection for genome editing tools. Advantages of this system include availability of a high quality genome assembly and easy lab culture of sponge host and algal symbionts. The successful candidate will work in a supportive and inclusive environment in the Leys Lab at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, and maintain close collaboration with other team members in the USA (Bates College, Lewiston, Maine) and Spain (National Museum of Natural Sciences, Madrid).

Qualifications:

- Doctoral degree or equivalent (Ph.D.) in molecular biology, microbiology, genetics or other closely related field
- Demonstrated research experience with basic experimental procedures such as RNA/DNA extraction, RT-PCR, Real Time PCR, molecular cloning, RNA/DNA sequencing, tissue collection/processing and visualization (microscopy); experimental design
- Strong communication and writing skills

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with host:symbiont manipulation; manuscript writing experience; and a peer-reviewed publication record
- Prior experience in vector design, construction and delivery into cells, and mutant genotyping and characterization would be a definite plus

We are firmly committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion and aim to give all members of this project the opportunity and skills needed to succeed. We are looking for a colleague who shares these goals and who will pursue continued growth in creating an inclusive working environment.

To Apply:

Please send inquiries and applications to Drs. Leys, Riesgo and Hill at: ephysymbio@gmail.com. Applications should include a cover letter, CV, and a brief description of their experience as well as the names and contact information of three references.

Closing date:

We will begin considering applications July 30 until the position is filled, with an anticipated start date between September 2020 and January 2021.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those individuals selected for an interview will be contacted.

The University of Alberta is committed to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce. We welcome applications from all qualified persons. We encourage women; First Nations, Métis and Inuit; members of visible minority groups; persons with disabilities; persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity and expression; and all those who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas and the University to apply.