Florida Atlantic University’s
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

Postdoctoral Investigator in Biosynthesis - # 01002543

Position Summary
Florida Atlantic University’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, located in Ft. Pierce, FL, seeks a highly self-motivated Postdoctoral Investigator to study marine natural product biosynthesis within the Marine Biomedical and Biotechnology Research program. Our aim is to identify gene clusters responsible for the biosynthesis of marine natural products, to characterize key catalytic machineries involved, and to engineer related metabolic pathways. Interdisciplinary approaches of Genetics, Biochemistry and Chemistry will be applied. The initial job appointment is one year. Renewal is possible based on available funding and work performance.

One primary responsibility of this position is to establish a metagenomics platform to study biosynthesis of microbial symbionts in sponges. Responsibilities also include routine and non-routine nucleic acid and protein operations, gene expression, enzymatic assay and microbial fermentation. Further duties include working closely with the PI to ensure that goals are being met in the laboratory, to prepare and publish papers in journals, and possibly to apply for fellowships or grants in collaboration with the PI.

The successful candidate will be expected to design and perform research, perform experiments, collect and analyze data, and assist the Principal Investigator (PI) in lab management.

Qualifications
A Ph.D. degree in Genetics, Biochemistry or related fields and prior experience with microorganisms are required. Degree must be completed at the time of application. Must have documented experience with microbial natural product biosynthesis and familiarity with natural products databases, such as AntiBase. Good communication and writing skills are also required. The successful candidate should have demonstrated experience with creative research including first-authored peer-reviewed publications.

Ability to work both independently and collaboratively as a team with co-workers is required.

Ability to efficiently follow directions, but also be capable of making independent decisions to ensure accurate results are obtained from all laboratory experiments.

Experience with informatics and metagenomics for the identification of natural product biosynthetic gene clusters is highly preferred, as is a background in natural products chemistry.

The successful candidate is expected to have a strong publication record in high impact, peer-reviewed journals as well as strong references that clearly demonstrate the capabilities of the candidate and their ability to conduct creative research.

How to Apply
This position is open until filled and may close without prior notice.

All applicants must apply electronically to the currently posted position on the Office of Human Resources' job website (https://jobs.fau.edu) by completing the Faculty, Administrative, Managerial & Professional Position Application and submitting the related documents. Please apply to #01002543.

Our application site permits the attachment of required/requested documentation. In addition to completing the online application, please upload the following: a cover letter, curriculum vitae, copies of official transcripts scanned into an electronic format, a statement of research experience and philosophy, and contact information for three references including email addresses. Every applicant may upload a maximum of 6 documents. The maximum size for each
document is 2MB. If you have more than 6 documents to be attached, we recommend that you combine two (2) or more items into one (1) document prior to uploading.

Transcripts for faculty positions must be an official copy scanned into an electronic format and attached to the application. Degrees from outside the United States must be validated by an organization belonging to the National Association of Credential Evaluation Service (NACES), with an indication of the documents the evaluation was prepared from (official transcripts, diplomas, dissertation abstracts). The evaluation should be scanned and electronically attached to the application.

An unofficial transcript may be used during the hiring process to assure that the prospective faculty member may be credentialed for the courses they are expected to teach.

An official transcript sent directly from the institution is required for the Provost’s credential file prior to the first day of employment. Similarly, for degrees from outside the United States, the evaluation by an organization belonging to the National Association of Credential Evaluation (NACES), with an indication of the documents the evaluation was prepared from (official transcripts, diplomas, dissertation abstracts) is required for the Provost’s credential file prior to the first day of class.

A background check will be required for the candidate selected for this position. This position is subject to funding.

Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodation, please call 561-297-3057.