
EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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POSTDOC OPPORTUNITY: BACTERIOPHAGE FOR THE BIOCONTROL OF PATHOGENS

COLLEGE PROFILE

The Evergreen State College is a progressive, public liberal arts and sciences college located in Olympia, Washington, in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Since opening its doors in 1971, Evergreen has established a national reputation for leadership in developing innovative interdisciplinary, collaborative and team-taught academic programs. The college has a vibrant undergraduate program, a graduate program and seven public service centers that constitute a unique academic setting. The college values a student-centered learning environment, a link between theory and practice, and a multicultural community of diverse faculty, students and staff working together. Current enrollment is approximately 4,500. For more information about Evergreen, please visit our college catalog or our website: <http://www.evergreen.edu>.

PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE POSITION

Developing the basic physiological understanding key to using phage to help control E. coli O157:H7 in cattle and sheep and to other therapeutic applications of phage.

LOCATION

Phage Biology Lab, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA.

LENGTH

Through August 2010, under a new NIH grant (with potential for renewal, based on funding);

SALARY

Approximately \$32,000 per year (dependant on experience) plus excellent benefits.

BACKGROUND

The Evergreen phage lab has been working with various aspects of phage biology continuously since 1973, focusing on the transition from host to phage metabolism, genomics, phage infection under conditions reflecting the natural environment, and, since 1993, on potential antibacterial applications of phages (in collaboration with scientists from a range of labs around the world). Most of our research is carried out by undergraduates under the guidance of senior personnel. For the last 8 years, one main focus has been isolating, characterizing and testing new phages against E. coli O157:H7, both in vitro (including anaerobically and in stationary phase) and in vivo (in conjunction with the USDA/Texas A&M), supported in part by NIH AREA grants. As this time we have a good collection of virulent anti-O157:H7 phages, isolated from sheep resistant to O157:H7 and from stockpens, that show substantial potential as a pre-harvest treatment strategy for livestock. The appointed person will be responsible for running the lab on a daily basis, carrying out primary research to further develop this technology, co-writing papers and helping support the work of the undergraduate research students, some of whom are also working on projects involving phage against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus aureus* from veterinary infections and from cystic fibrosis patients.

We are seeking an individual at the post-doctoral level with a strong background in molecular biology and microbial physiology; some experience with phages, with anaerobic microbiology, with genomic analysis and with microarray technology would be highly advantageous. The particular emphasis is on phage infection of E. coli in stationary phase and under conditions of anaerobic respiration and fermentation - conditions that are relevant in the mammalian colon and rumen, respectively, but about which very little is known – as well as studies of the interactions occurring when phages from different families simultaneously infect a host cell.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested individuals should forward a CV, cover letter, list of published materials and the names of 3 references to: Dr. Andrew Brabban and Dr. Elizabeth Kutter, kutterb@evergreen.edu and brabbana@evergreen.edu. For further information on our work: www.evergreen.edu/phage.

We will begin to consider applications on Sept. 22, but will continue to accept applications until the position is filled.

To request disability accommodation in the application process, call the Human Resource Services Office at (360) 867-5361 (voice), or (360) 867-6834 (TTY) or email your request to jobline@evergreen.edu.

Committed to equal opportunity and operating with an Affirmative Action Plan, The Evergreen State College is working to build a diverse faculty and staff. We strongly encourage qualified persons of all races, ethnicities, and sexual orientations, persons of disability, persons over forty, women, Vietnam Era and disabled veterans to apply.