Position: Postdoctoral Research Associate Position Available in Honey Bee Molecular Biology/Bioinformatics

Date Available: immediately

Location: Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory (HBREL) Entomology and Nematology Department Bldg. 970, Steinmetz Hall Natural Area Dr. University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 32611-0629 http://www.ufhoneybee.com

Appointment: The position is full-time for one year. This is a non-tenure accruing position.

Pay Rate: $48,000 - $50,000/year

Position Description: The Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory is seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral research associate whose primary responsibility will be to use bioinformatics tools and databases to develop robust and accurate molecular markers that can be used to identify potentially invasive honey bee species and subspecies. The postdoc will analyze NGS data from various honey bee genomes to identify novel genes of interest and to validate gene sequences. The postdoc will need to work well independently and with a team of scientists, and be competent in troubleshooting problems that may arise. The postdoc will produce thorough project reports to fulfill the duties associated with grant and sponsored program requirements, in addition to refereed manuscripts in which the project results will be published. The technical proficiency of a potential candidate for the position may be assessed prior to hiring.

Qualifications:
1. A PhD in entomology, bioinformatics, or a related discipline
2. Experience with bioinformatics, genomics and statistical genetics, with particular expertise in computational approaches to genomic analyses
3. Familiarity with genome assembling and annotation
4. Experience analyzing large-scale genetic/genomic datasets (ex/ SNP data)
5. Proficiency in general lab practices and molecular techniques: RNA and DNA extraction/purification, gradient, end-point, and real-time PCR, gel electrophoresis, Taqman probe-based genotyping assay, and sample preparation for sequencing  
6. Evidence of research productivity (including high-quality research publications, presentations) and involvement in innovative, high-level research  
7. Excellent written and oral communication skills  
8. Effective interpersonal and organizational skills, excellent time management skills  
9. Demonstrable research potential, high motivation and enthusiasm for the subject area  
10. Demonstrable experience with collecting and analyzing large data sets  
11. Ability to integrate successfully into a laboratory employing students, technicians, and postdocs with varied interests  
12. A history of publishing impactful refereed manuscripts  
13. A valid driver’s license  

The postdoc will report directly to the project Principal Investigator, Dr. Jamie Ellis, but will collaborate with personnel from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - Division of Plant Industry, and the USDA-APHIS (sponsoring agency).  

Application: A review of applications will begin 19 March 2018 and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. Applicants must submit applications to Ms. Emily Helton (heltone@ufl.edu). To be considered for this position, one must submit (1) a letter of application (cover letter), (2) curriculum vitae, (3) pdf copies of three refereed publications (if publications are available), and (4) university transcripts (undergraduate and graduate school transcripts). (5) Furthermore, it is the candidate’s responsibility to arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent to Ms. Helton from the individuals supplying the letters. Email submission of complete application is required. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please email Dr. Ellis (jdellis@ufl.edu) with any questions.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff. The selection process will be conducted in accord with the provisions of Florida’s Government in the Sunshine' and Public Records Laws. Applications, resumes, and many other documents related to the search will be available for public inspection. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodation.