Save The Date:
Genetics Mini-Symposium “Impact and Applications of Genome Editing Technologies”. The symposium will be on Wednesday, May 10, in the Molecular Plant Sciences building (Room 1200 and Atrium). More information on the speakers, schedule, and registration will be sent out by April 1.

March for Science Lansing: April 22, 2017
Do you support empirical science? Do you believe in the responsible application of science in government policy making? Come out and for March for Science Lansing, a satellite march known to and under the guidance of MARCH FOR SCIENCE – Washington, D.C. For more information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/MarchForScienceLansing, or contact scientistsmarchonlansing@gmail.com.

35th Annual Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Practical Course in Mouse Development, Stem Cells, and Cancer: June 7-26th in Cold Spring Harbor, NY
Graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and principal investigators interested in developing and using mouse models of human disease are invited to apply. The application deadline is March 15th, 2017, and scholarships are available. For more information, please visit the course website at: http://meetings.cshl.edu/courses.aspx?course=C-MOUS&year=17

The American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) presents a special symposium: “Evolution and Core Processes in Gene Expression”; July 13-16, 2017
Organizers: David Arnosti (Michigan State University), Justin Fay (Washington University), Julia Zeitlinger (Stowers Institute). Learn more at: https://www.asbmb.org/SpecialSymposia/2017/geneexpression/

Origins of Cancer is a one-day symposium that brings together students, scientists and medical professionals to discuss the latest breakthroughs in cancer research. The theme for 2017 is Tackling Provocative Questions, which will highlight recent progress from the National Cancer Institute’s Provocative Questions Initiative. Registration will open in April 2017.

Announcements:

Frontiers in Reproductive Epigenetics Symposium
“Epigenetics of Maternal and Paternal Effects”; May 12, 2017; Grand Rapids, MI
The inaugural Frontiers in Reproductive Epigenetics Symposium will focus on parental effects, when the genotype of the mother or father rather than the genotype of the individual determines phenotype. These phenomena are now investigated extensively at the molecular level and the results often point to specific epigenetic modifiers affecting the egg or sperm. Epigenetic disturbances in the gametes can have long-lasting effects on the offspring and even on future generations. Register by going to: www.frontiersinreproepi.org

Graduate Student Life & Wellness “Race for the Place”
April 9, 2017; 1 PM; Jennison Field House

As part of our mission to help build a culture of health, wellness, inclusivity, and safety, Grad Life & Wellness supports wholeheartedly the work of MSU Safe Place. Registration Deadline for Sponsorship is March 19, 2017. Contact gradwellness@vps.msu.edu or 517-884-1332.

Towards Racial Equity: Creating a More Inclusive Science Community
We all have biases, big or small, that affect the ways we interact with others. These workshops will be beneficial to faculty, postdocs, graduate students, and staff alike as the presenters discuss ways to recognize our biases, interrupt bias when we see it, and improve our interactions with people of color and other minoritized groups in the College of Natural Science community. Visit http://ow.ly/100MZG to register for one or more of the workshops. Participants will learn new considerations for:
- Creating inclusive and welcoming classrooms for minoritized students
- Developing positive relationships with minoritized students in an effort to contribute to university-wide student success initiatives
- Understanding how group identity and membership affects the creation of an inclusive MSU community
- Creating inclusive and welcoming departmental environments for all departmental members
- Working with students of color, which can increase student success and student perceptions of faculty

April 11, 2016, 11:30am-1pm, 105 Natural Science
Advocating for Students of Color
Jasmine Lee, Director of Diversity Programs and Student Engagement in the James Madison College
This interactive presentation uses Critical Race Theory to explore how Students of Color experience predominately White Institutions (PWIs) and how faculty, staff, graduate students, and advisors can better support and advocate for them. Opportunities for discussion and questions. Limited to 50 participants.

Bio: http://jmc.msu.edu/contact/show.php?id=120

April 27, 2016, 11:30-1pm, 208 Biochemistry Building
Exploring Group Privilege
Donna Rich Kaplowitz, Assistant Professor in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities

An exploration of group identities, privilege, and oppression that will engage participants in self-reflection and taking active steps toward creating an inclusive MSU community. Limited to 20 participants.
Bio: [http://rcah.msu.edu/people/faculty-staff/kaplowitz](http://rcah.msu.edu/people/faculty-staff/kaplowitz)

May 9, 2016, 11:30-1pm, 1400 Biomedical Physical Sciences

*Promoting Inclusion and Excellence: Improving mentoring, Addressing Career Needs, and Reducing Bias*

NiCole T. Buchanan, Associate Professor in Psychology and faculty affiliate of MSU’s Consortium for Multicultural Psychology Research, Research Consortium on Gender-Based Violence, and the Center for Gender in Global Context

This presentation will review findings from 118 interviews with diverse faculty related to experiences of bias and mentoring. Results provide insight on creating inclusive departments at MSU by addressing bias, improving mentoring opportunities, and addressing the career needs of faculty of color. Limited to 50 participants.

Bio: [https://vaw.msu.edu/people/buchanan/](https://vaw.msu.edu/people/buchanan/)

**How to Work with Righteous Minds**

March 22, 2017, 5:30-6:30 PM; Pasant Theater, Wharton Center

Guest Speaker: Jonathan Haidt, social psychologist and author of *The Happiness Hypothesis: Finding Modern Truth in Ancient Wisdom*

Part of a week-long set of events on "Free Speech and Open Inquiry on Today’s College Campus," March 20-24, Michigan State University. For more info go to: [https://vprgs.msu.edu/event/jonathan-haidt-righteous-minds](https://vprgs.msu.edu/event/jonathan-haidt-righteous-minds)

**Course Announcement:**

**Computational Systems Biology and Dose Response Modeling Short Course**

*PHM 980, Section 301, 1 credit*

Date: May 15-17, 2017 (2.5 days)

Location: Food Safety and Toxicology Building, Room 162

Instructors: Sudin Bhattacharya, Michigan State University; Wan-Yun Cheng, US Environmental Protection Agency; Rory B. Conolly, US Environmental Protection Agency; Qiang Zhang, Emory University

Course Description: This short course will cover dynamical systems modeling techniques for quantitative investigation of how biological systems respond to perturbations at the cellular level. The course will consist of lectures and hands-on computer simulation exercises on:

- Common network motifs in signal transduction and gene regulatory networks that underlie systems-level cellular behaviors including homeostasis, adaption, threshold response, binary and irreversible cell fate decisions, and oscillations.
- How molecular circuits compromising genes and proteins give rise to various dynamic and dose-response behaviors. Examples include cellular stress response, cell differentiation, and cell cycle and checkpoint control, etc.
- Use of these simulation techniques to develop computational models for understanding and predicting nonlinear dose response behaviors of environmental toxicants and drugs.

Students will be required to bring a PC laptop computer (Mac is not recommended for compatibility issues in some simulation exercises) each day to the course to run computer simulation exercises.
Please contact Dr. Qiang Zhang (qiang.zhang@emory.edu) if you have any course specific questions.
Please contact Steve Stofflet, Stephen.stofflet@hc.msu.edu, in the department of Pharmacology and Toxicology for course registration/override. NOTE: While the course is offered during the summer semester, you will have to actually enroll in it for fall semester 2017.

Calendar:

Monday March 6:
No Events

Tuesday, March 7:
**MMG Seminar:** Patricia Champion, University of Notre Dame; “Novel Mechanisms regulating mycobacterium protein transport”; 4:10 p.m.; 1415 BPS

**Genetics Journal Club:** Paul Gajewski, Michigan State University; “Sex Differences in Nucleus Accumbens Transcriptome Profiles Associated with Susceptibility Versus Resilience to Subchronic Variable Stress”; 12:00 p.m.; BPS 2245

Wednesday, March 8:
**Pharm/Tox Seminar:** Bina Joe, University of Toledo; “Genome, Epigenome, Microbiome and Hypertension: What are the Links?“; 12:00 p.m.; B448 Life Sciences

Thursday, March 9:
**Physiology Seminar:** Alex Johnson, Michigan State University; "Neuropeptide Circuitry Modulating the Interaction Between Learning and Feeding Behavior"; 4:00 p.m.; 1425 BPS

Friday, March 10:
No Events

Workshops:

**MMG Graduate Student Workshop Series:**
The MMG Graduate Student Workshop (GSW) series will be held every other Wednesday this spring from 12 to 1 PM in room 2245 BPS. Pizza or sandwiches (with vegetarian options) will be provided by the GSW. For questions, ideas for workshops, or to request giving a student talk please feel free to contact John Chodkowski (john.chodkowski@gmail.com) or Dylan Frabutt (dylanfrabutt@gmail.com).

Upcoming Meetings:

Mar. 8- Workshop
Mar. 22- Student Talk
Apr. 5- Workshop: R Tutorial- Topic TBD (Taylor Dunivin)
Apr. 19- Student Talks
Grad Life & Wellness; “Financial Wellness”
March 22, 2017; 6 PM-8 PM; Room 110, Chittenden Hall

Saving Strategies; Investing in yourself and your wellbeing; and managing budget, stress, credit score, and debt. Register at o.grad.msu.edu/workshopRegistration/

EPIGENOMICS AT VAN ANDEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
AN INTENSE ONE-WEEK WORKSHOP FOR GIFTED GRADUATE STUDENTS

August 7–11, 2017 ● Grand Rapids, Michigan
Taught by internationally recognized epigenomics experts, the second annual Epigenomics at VARI workshop gives gifted graduate students an intense overview of the latest innovative methodology and its applications across several fields including cancer and neurodegenerative disease research.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Bing Ren, Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, Multi-Dimensional Analysis of the Human Genome

APPLICATION INFORMATION
To apply, please visit http://www.epigenomicsatvari.org/. Applications accepted January 3–May 1, 2017.

COST: Full scholarships including travel available for up to 15 students

13th Summer School on Toxic Compounds in the Environment 2017
RECETOX Research Infrastructure, Regional POPs Centre for Central and Eastern Europe and Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX), Masaryk University would like to extend to you an invitation to attend the international 13th Summer School on Toxic Compounds in the Environment 2017, which will commence from 26th June to 30th June 2017 at RECETOX, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. For more information, please visit: http://www.recetox.muni.cz/

Registration is open here: https://is.muni.cz/obchod/fakulta/sci/recetox/?lang=en Do not hesitate with registration, summer school is limited to 40 participants.

2017 Innovation Lab on Quantitative Approaches to Biomedical Data Science Challenges in our Understanding of the Microbiome

June 19-23, 2017; Wylie Inn and Conference Center

The BD2K Training Coordinating Center is organizing an Innovation Lab to foster new interdisciplinary collaborations among quantitative and biomedical researchers to address data science challenges in our understanding of the microbiome. The scope of microbiome, as defined here, broadly describes the corresponding high-dimensional big data derived from microbiota associated with a health or biomedical research objective.

The Innovation Lab process entails participation in an intensive five-day residential workshop in order to facilitate the development of new teams of early-career biomedical and quantitative investigators who generate multidisciplinary cooperative research programs through a real-time and iterative mentoring process. The concept of the Innovation Lab program is to organize intensive multidisciplinary interactions involving around 30 participants, with the aim of developing new and bold approaches to address grand challenge questions for topics that could benefit from a fresh or divergent perspective.
Prior knowledge of research at this interface is not required; rather, applicants with either quantitative or biomedical expertise who demonstrate their willingness to engage in collaborative multidisciplinary research are sought. Teams are highly encouraged to develop proposals for submission to the funding agencies after the conclusion of the workshop. Professional facilitators and senior scientists (mentors) with relevant expertise and exposure to the topic area assist the participants. The scientific experts serve as mentors and act as impartial referees during the process. Working under the guidance of the mentors, participants will form teams during the workshop to develop interdisciplinary projects to solve a data science challenge arising from a biomedical research question involving the microbiome.

The lab will include opportunities for learning about NIH and NSF funding through interaction with program officers.

**Application Procedure:**

Applications accepted Starting February 1, 2017

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS:**

11:59PM, Eastern Time, Sunday, March 12, 2017

For more information, please visit: [http://www.bigdatau.org/innovationlab2017](http://www.bigdatau.org/innovationlab2017)

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**The Choice to Become a Research Subject: A First-Person Perspective**

March 22nd, 2017; 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.; C102 Patenge Rm, East Fee Hall

Patients with serious illnesses are often invited to participate in clinical trials. After being diagnosed with advanced cancer, I became one of those patients. I had to choose between two options: a treatment regimen my doctors had recommended, or a trial evaluating different treatments for my disease. As someone who had taught and written about research ethics, I was in some ways better prepared than many patients are to make this choice. Nevertheless, I decided not to enroll in the trial. **Was this a defensible choice, or did I have a responsibility to contribute to a study that could help future patients in my situation?**

**Rebecca Dresser, JD**, is a Professor of Law at Washington University in St. Louis.

Online: [msubioethics.clickwebinar.com/brownbag](msubioethics.clickwebinar.com/brownbag)

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**Rigor and Reproducibility: Use of Animals in Research**

Thursday, March 16 2017; 3:00 PM; 1400 BPS

In this session, Stephanie Watts, Laura McCabe, and Alex Burt, who serve on National Institutes of Health review panels, will discuss their experiences with the NIH Rigor and Reproducibility requirements for NIH applications. The format of the session will consist of questions to the panelists from the moderator and the attendees.

Among the issues to be addressed are:

- how review panels are trained on rigor and reproducibility,
- ways in which investigators might respond to the requirement, and
- how rigor and reproducibility factor into scoring of applications.

For more info: [https://vprgs.msu.edu/event/rigor-and-reproducibility-part-3](https://vprgs.msu.edu/event/rigor-and-reproducibility-part-3)
Job Opportunities

Postdoctoral Scientists, RECETOX

The Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX) is a research and educational facility of the Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. Research of the Centre focuses on environmental fate and effects of toxic compounds, ecological and human risk assessment. RECETOX offers excellent research facilities and inspiring international environment.

RECETOX is currently offering 3 positions of postdoctoral scientists (f/m) in the EU H2020 funded project of Human BioMonitoring for Europe (HBM4EU).

The research topics are:
- Biomonitoring and suspect screening of emerging chemicals in human matrices
- Pharmacokinetic modeling of organic contaminants in the human body
- Linking exposures and health by Adverse Outcome Pathways

We are looking for highly motivated and creative researchers with a keen interest in developing a quantitative and process-based understanding of the factors that govern human exposure to different types of chemicals present in indoor environments, food, drinking water etc. and related effects. Candidates should hold a doctoral degree in the area of natural sciences, preferentially environmental chemistry, ecotoxicology or related fields.

The place of work is Brno, Czech Republic. The initial appointment will be made for two years and can be extended to an overall duration of five years. Earliest start date: March 1st, 2017. Salary will be around 2000 euro. Applications are accepted until the positions are filled. Please send your complete application documents including a CV, motivation letter and copy of certificates to Veronika Jálová: jalova@recetox.muni.cz

TA Tuition Pool

The TA Tuition Pool application for summer semester is now open. The link to the application can be found on the Graduate School website at: https://grad.msu.edu/TAtuitionpool. The application deadline is Friday, March 31 at 5 PM.

The tuition credits are available only to students who are appointed as teaching assistants in the semester in which they will receive the credits. They can be used toward required courses that go beyond the 5 credits included in the summer assistantship benefits. The application must be supported by a faculty letter confirming that the credits are required for the program.

The GEU will select which students will receive support through the TA tuition pool, according to the priority categories listed on the application page. The application for the fall TA Tuition Pool will open June 1, 2017.

Faculty – Assistant or Associate Professor, Tenure Track, Columbia University

Field of Specialization: Toxicology

Proposed Starting Date: July 1, 2017
**Position Description:** The Department of Environmental Health Sciences of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health seeks applicants for 1-2 tenure track faculty positions at the level of Assistant or Associate Professor, beginning July 1, 2017. We seek scholars with a doctorate degree in Toxicology and are particularly, but not exclusively, interested in expertise in neurotoxicology. We are also interested in scientists working on the microbiome as it relates to environmentally-induced diseases. The successful candidate(s) will work and collaborate with investigators across the Columbia University Medical Center to develop a comprehensive research program in the areas referenced above, and she/he will play a substantial role in our MS, MPH and PhD educational programs as a teacher and mentor.

**Minimum Degree Required:** Doctoral degree, terminal professional

**Minimum Qualifications:** Doctorate degree in toxicology, neurotoxicology, environmental health sciences, or other related discipline (PhD, ScD, DrPH or MD), with substantial post-doctoral training and experience in mechanisms of environmental disease, or cellular, molecular or in vivo models of human disease. A strong publication record, original and creative long-term research vision and demonstrated excellence in teaching and mentoring are required. A record of obtaining peer-reviewed funding for independent research is essential, as is a demonstrated success in working with multidisciplinary and multi-institutional teams.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, CV, personal research plan, statement of teaching philosophy, and list of references to the attention of Dr. Joseph Graziano, Search Committee Chair, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, 722 West 168th Street New York, NY 10032 using the following link [https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants](https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants)

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**Sr Research Manager/Analyst, American Beverage Association**

**Job Description:**

1. Monitor the scientific landscape (both tox and nutrition) relative to both the safety of the ingredients our beverage companies use and the efficacy of our products (emerging issues);
2. Serve as VP's surrogate at conferences;
3. Draft regular outlook/updates summarizing findings from key “quality” studies (and studies presented at conferences) and highlight significance;
4. Help create a user-friendly electronic database to house the available literature, registered studies (e.g., [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)) and other sources of information that would help quickly identify relevant publications as basis for science-based positions.

Importantly, this position will require significant review of research articles that reflect toxicological concepts, epidemiology, nutrition, etc. coupled with distillation of key points. Being computer/software savvy to help create and maintain a searchable electronic filing system would be a huge plus.

**Requirement - Minimum M.S. in relevant field**

**Contact:**
Maia M. Jack, Ph.D.
Vice President, Science and Regulatory Affairs
American Beverage Association
mjjack@ameribev.org
The MSU Early Learning Institute, an early intervention program for children with autism, is currently hiring Behavior Technicians to deliver evidence-based interventions to children. A bachelor’s degree and experience with children with autism or related disorders is preferred, though we would consider outstanding applicants with varied combinations of education and experience. We have a number of MSU graduates currently in the position, most of whom are spending a year or two with us before going on to graduate programs in similar fields.

**Job Summary:** Administer applied behavior analysis (ABA) programming to children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) under supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Work with interdisciplinary team of professionals supporting children with ASD in inclusive settings.

**Description:**
- Between 30 and 40 hours per week
- Work in an exciting environment with children ages 3-5, with a diagnosis of ASD
- Serve as a behavioral therapist in one-to-one, small group, and inclusive settings
- Administer therapeutic behavioral supports in inclusive setting
- Support children in all areas of development
- Implement all teaching and behavior plans developed by the BCBA
- Collect and maintain data during all sessions
- Maintain confidentiality of all children, families, and staff
- Participate as an active team member, attending collaboration meetings, in-service trainings, and workshops

**Qualifications:**
- B.S. or B.A. degree in Behavior Analysis, Psychology, Child Development, Education, or Special Education preferred
- May need to lift a minimum of 50 pounds
- Computer skills related to word documents, spreadsheet development, and data management

**Desired:**
- Experience with children with ASD or related disorders
- Knowledge and implementation of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Demonstrated ability to work in a fast paced, flexible environment
- Demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative setting
- Verbal and written communication skills

**Benefits:**
- Competitive pay
- Supervision of fieldwork required for Board Certified Behavior Analyst or Associate Behavior Analyst
- Extensive training in applied behavior analysis (ABA)
- Opportunity to support and learn about research studies occurring at the Institute
**Location:**
Locations in East Lansing and Lansing

**To Apply:**
Send your resume and cover letter to Dr. Kate LaLonde, lalond18@msu.edu

**Postdoctoral Position in Computational Biology and Genetics**
A three-year fully-funded post-doctoral research position in computational biology is available, working with leaders in the fields of molecular genetics, psychiatry, neuroscience and philosophy of science. The successful candidate will have outstanding skills in bioinformatics and statistics and a driving curiosity about how genes affect behavior and other complex traits. The position may be held with Dr. Mark Reimers at Michigan State University in East Lansing, or with Dr. Kenneth Kendler at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

The project aims to address a fundamental question in the genetics of complex traits and diseases: to what extent do genetic variants related to a trait point to a distinct molecular mechanism for that trait? We will specifically compare the genetics of a variety of behavioral traits and psychiatric disorders to the genetics of well-understood processes like growth, and to the genetics of other well-studied complex traits and diseases.

We will have access to many of the largest GWAS data sets compiled to date, and we will integrate these GWAS data with several kinds of genomic data: chromatin, 17-primate conservation, and population history, in order to identify lists of the most likely candidate SNPs and genes. We will then map genes to the rapidly expanding protein-interaction and cell signaling databases in order to identify interactions among the proteins coded by these genes. Then we will develop metrics to quantify the molecular coherence of various traits: that is, the extent to which the different genes implicated in each trait interact directly with each other; this metric will be analogous to network connectivity, although edges may have different strengths or types. Much of this project will depend on integrating data which comes with considerable uncertainty, and we plan to use a Bayesian approach.

This unique integrative project will require a comprehensive engagement with a variety of GWAS data, and draw on a large swathe of modern computational molecular biology; we expect it to yield significant insight into how common genetic variation may influence many complex human traits, and therefore to high-profile publications. This position is funded by a grant from the Templeton Foundation.

**Application Process:**
Interested applicants should send applications to Dr. Mark Reimers (reimersm@msu.edu), or to Dr. Kenneth Kendler, (kenneth.kendler@vcuhealth.org), with subject heading ‘Templeton post-doc application’. All submitted applications must include the following documents: letter of interest, summary of research interest and future plans, three references and a CV. Only electronic applications/documents will be accepted. Administrative questions should be directed to Shari Stockmeyer at stockmey@msu.edu, or Linda Mikell, at linda.mikell@vcuhealth.org.

MSU and VCU are Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employers. Women, minorities and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.
Nestle Nutrition in Fremont, MI is a Nestle product development center for Baby Meals and Drinks. The opportunity has arisen for a Microbiology Lab Intern to join our team!

**POSITION SUMMARY:** The Microbiology Lab Intern will conduct laboratory project work and various project related tasks under the supervision of scientists in the Analytical Services and Food Safety. Summer and Fall Internship (July 2017 to Dec. 2017); Full-time 40 hrs/week with some overtime

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Will perform Microbiology research in an area relevant to microbiological quality and safety of Baby Meals & Drinks products. Will perform bench scale experiments related to assigned project; May perform other lab activities related to microbiological analysis or laboratory operations; Will present periodic project updates to project team and a final project presentation; Will conduct instrument maintenance, calibration and general cleaning of work area; Will comply with requirement of Nestle Good Laboratory Practice on record keeping, documentation and safety.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Working towards a MS or PhD Degree in Microbiology, Food Microbiology, or related science major.

**EXPERIENCE:** Experience in a Microbiology laboratory and analytical setting preferred; Experience of working with bacterial spores is highly desired.

**SKILLS:** Good skills on microbial analysis, aseptic operation, method development, problem-solving and critical thinking; Ability to follow direction and to prioritize; Knowledgeable and skilled on Microsoft Word, Power Point, Excel and basic statistics.

The Nestle companies are equal opportunity and affirmative action employers and are looking for diversity in candidates for employment: Minority/Female/Disabled/Protected Veteran

In order to be considered, please apply directly to [www.nestlejobs.com](http://www.nestlejobs.com)  The Nestle companies are equal opportunity and affirmative action employers and are looking for diversity in candidates for employment: Minority/Female/Disabled/Protected Veteran

**Post-Doctoral Associate-North Carolina State University**

Post-Doctoral Associate position immediately available to join a collaborative research project between the Beisel lab at North Carolina State University and Dr. Evan Braswell, USDA.

**Position Description**

Our group invites applications for a newly-created post-doctoral researcher position to be located in McAllen, Texas USA. The successful candidate will have demonstrated basic microbiological techniques through previous laboratory work in the areas of microbial genetics, genetic engineering, or similar field. Applicants should also have a broad background in plant physiology and plant genetic manipulation theory and practice. Previous work with bacteriophage and/or fastidious bacteria is a welcomed bonus. The post-doc is expected to actively participate in project planning within the larger framework of this collaboration between NCSU and the USDA.

**Responsibilities**

- Bacterial strain maintenance
- Phage particle production
- Basic molecular techniques: PCR, restriction digests, etc...
- Greenhouse plant and experimental support
Data collection and experimental design
Plant hormone manipulation

Contact
Interested applicants should directly contact Dr. Braswell at: Evan.Braswell@aphis.usda.gov. Please include a current CV, cover letter, and two professional references.

Scholarships & Fellowships:
Grant Opportunity for Rare Disease Researchers
The 2016/2017 BeHEARD (Helping Empower and Accelerate Research Discoveries) Challenge is hosted annually by the Rare Genomics Institute and is open globally to researchers, foundations, or anyone whose research is constrained due to limited resources. This year, we have over $650,000 of technologies available for researchers.

We partner with companies to provide free technology grants including mouse models, genome analysis software, and cell lines. Applicants select one or more technologies that they think would benefit their research, and submit a proposal for each technology. Research proposals are evaluated based on the technology’s fit with the research and the potential for the research to advance rare disease treatments. The application is short (~2 pages) and very straightforward.

For more information on the competition and the application, please visit our website: http://www.raregenomics.org/beheard-competition/. The deadline for applications is March 7, 2017.

Fulbright-Hays Fellowship
The Fulbright-Hays competition is now open for doctoral students to do dissertation research in one or more countries with which the U.S. has diplomatic relations, except those of Western Europe, although shorter periods of the grant are allowed in Western Europe to consult relevant sources. This fellowship covers airfare, insurance, and project expenses for the fellow and maintenance stipends for the fellow and accompanying dependents.

In this competition, advanced doctoral students apply through the project director at their institution of higher education (IHE) and the IHE submits all the applications together and administers the grant on behalf of the students applicants who have been accepted.

MSU has been successful in this competition, largely due to the high quality of its graduate students and the attentive mentorship by the graduate faculty. 2016 was typical: we submitted 12 applications and were awarded for 4 grants – one for Zanzibar, one for Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and Portugal, one for Senegal and France, and one for Kazakhstan and Russia.

A student is eligible to apply who:

- Is a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States,
- Is a doctoral student in good standing at or near candidacy status,
- Is planning a teaching career in the United States upon completion of his or her doctoral program, and
- Possesses sufficient foreign language skills to carry out the dissertation research project.
This year’s competition closes March 14th. Our internal deadline will be March 9, though there will be intermediate target dates for the various components of the application. For more information, please contact, Roger Bresnahan, Professor and Fulbright Program Advisor, at bresnaha@msu.edu or rogerbres@gmail.com.