

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN AEROMICROBIOLOGY

The Fowler lab at Simon Fraser University is looking for a postdoctoral fellow to join our Environmental Microbiology lab in the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science. The project focuses on the metabolic potential and activity of the aeromicrobiome.

The proposed start date is February 2024. Review of applications will begin on January 15, 2024 and will continue until the position is filled.

Project and responsibilities

The PDF will work on an interdisciplinary project examining the metabolism of microbes in the atmosphere. In particular, the project will focus on methanotrophs and their ability to biotransform methane and other compounds under atmospheric conditions. The project will combine fieldwork, metagenomics, microbial cultivation and physiological characterization. The PDF will work closely with collaborators in the Borduas-Dedekind lab, Department of Chemistry at the University of British Columbia on fieldwork and physiological characterization of methanotroph activity, and with students at SFU on cultivation and characterization of methanotrophs.

The project includes a budget for knowledge dissemination and conference travel. The successful candidate will be actively supported to develop their academic publication and research record and will have ample networking opportunities.

Mentorship will be provided to support the candidate to extend the tenure of their appointment by applying for additional funding.

Qualifications

- A PhD in microbiology, bioinformatics, biotechnology or a related field awarded no longer than 4.5 years ago, or evidence of a PhD defense/ submission date in the near future
- Experience in *at least one* of the following: working with methanotrophic cultures or strains, or analysis of metagenomic datasets
- Experience with molecular methods such as DNA extraction, PCR, qPCR is essential, and experience working with low-biomass samples and complex matrices would be an asset
- The ability to work collaboratively across disciplines and as part of a diverse team is essential as the successful candidate will be working across two labs in biology and chemistry departments
- Strong writing skills, including experience publishing academic journal articles and conference proceedings
- Creative problem solving and communication skills are valuable assets, as this project will require substantial development of new methodologies

In your application, please clearly indicate how you meet each of these qualifications.

This is a full-time position with an initial appointment of one year with a possibility of extension. The initial salary range is \$48,000-\$56,000 per year plus benefits.

The project PIs aim to foster an open and diverse lab environment that support the scientific development of trainees from all walks of life. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds. Equity and diversity enhance academic excellence.

To learn more about Dr. Fowler's lab and their research visit: www.jfowlerlab.weebly.com

To join our team, please email sjfowler@sfu.ca with subject line Postdoctoral Fellow in Aeromicrobiology with the following items attached: Cover letter, CV/Resume