Postdoc position in Arbovirology

Aliota Lab, University of Minnesota

Description:

The Aliota laboratory at the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary medicine is seeking a postdoc to help lead multidisciplinary projects in arbovirus evolution, transmission, and pathogenesis. The candidate for this position may work on projects that are mosquito-centric, vertebrate-centric, virus-centric, or a mix of all three. The position is available as early as May 2021 and will be for a minimum of 2 years.

The projects will include one or more of the following: (1) the impact of pre-existing immunity to dengue virus on Zika virus pathogenesis in pregnant nonhuman primates, (2) the molecular evolution of Zika virus during host switching, (3) antiviral signaling at the maternal-fetal interface, or (4) other interesting projects that may emerge.

The successful applicant will also assist with laboratory management duties, such as managing/training students and personnel; writing papers and giving scientific presentations; and assisting with grant writing. The position will involve close collaboration with other research teams at the University of Minnesota and beyond. Excellent written and oral communication skills are therefore essential.

Required qualifications:

PhD in microbiology, virology, molecular biology, biochemistry, cellular biology, immunology or related field.

The successful applicant should have a deep-seated interest in molecular virology and/or arbovirology, be an excellent communicator, and have a strong desire to learn about and apply new technologies and data analysis.

BSL 3 laboratory certification; certification for working with blood-borne pathogens. Both may be acquired upon hire.

Must be highly dependable, diligent, well-organized, and willing to work both independently and collaboratively.

Desired qualifications:

Experience with mosquitoes or other arthropods.

Experience with virus sequencing methods and platforms.

Experience in laboratory animal techniques.

Demonstrated ability to analyze large datasets and familiarity with programming languages like R and Python are strongly preferred.

Funding:

The position will be supported for at least 2 years but could be extended depending on future funding. Applying for outside fellowships is encouraged, but not required.

The position will remain open until filled, and the start date is anytime between May and December 2021.

Interested in joining our team? Email your CV, 1 page cover letter (that includes an outline of the research projects/ interests you may like to develop or bring to our lab), 1 writing sample (paper or grant), and the contact info for 3 references; or questions to mtaliota@umn.edu.