Postdoctoral Scholar Position: The evolution of immune systems

The Tate lab in the Department of Biological Sciences at Vanderbilt University is recruiting a motivated and creative Postdoctoral Scholar broadly interested in evolutionary immunology and host-microbe coevolution.

About the position: The Postdoctoral Scholar will take an interdisciplinary approach to study the constraints and trade-offs that shape the evolution of immune signaling networks using a combination of transcriptomic analyses, evolutionary genomics, and/or computational modeling. The postdoc will work directly with the PI to build models, design analytical pipelines, and analyze the results. The postdoc should be comfortable with conducting research with a high degree of independence, learning new methods, writing manuscripts, and presenting their work at conferences. The postdoc should also be willing to co-mentor undergraduate and graduate students. The postdoc will have flexibility to develop independent lines of research during their appointment. The position is available as early as summer 2019, and the start date is negotiable.

About the lab: The Tate Lab is a collegial group of students, postdoctoral fellows, and staff studying the ecology, evolution, and systems biology of infection and immunity by integrating experimental and theoretical methods. We value collaboration, cohesiveness, and inclusivity. The lab prioritizes development of trainees’ career and professional skills. More about our group can be found on our webpage: https://my.vanderbilt.edu/tatelab/

About the institution: The Department of Biological Sciences contains a highly collaborative array of research labs with particular strengths in evolution, organismal biology, molecular biology, and neuroscience. The Tate Lab is also affiliated with the Center for Evolutionary Studies, the Institute of Infection, Immunology and Inflammation, and the Data Science Institute, which connect and provide resources to researchers with similar interests across Vanderbilt University and Medical Center. The Vanderbilt Office of Biomedical Research and Training provides an array of resources for the career development of Postdoctoral Scholars, and hosts an active Postdoctoral Association. Vanderbilt is a renowned private R1 research institution founded in 1873 and located in the heart of Nashville, Tennessee. Nashville is internationally recognized for its music and culinary scene, and is surrounded by state parks and other opportunities to escape into nature. The university’s students, faculty, and frequently cite Nashville and the surrounding area as one of the many perks of being a part of Vanderbilt community.

Required qualifications: A Ph.D. in a biological or related discipline (or firm expectation of receiving one prior to starting the position).

Preferred qualifications: Working knowledge of evolutionary genetics and evolutionary theory is strongly preferred. Previous experience with the analysis of large transcriptomic or genomic datasets is preferred, as is previous experience in mathematical and/or agent-based modeling. The candidate should be hard-working, have strong oral and written communication skills, and be collegial and collaborative. The candidate should have a track record of scientific publications and conference presentations commensurate with career stage.

Compensation: Full salary and benefits are available for at least two years. The initial appointment will be for one year, renewable upon satisfactory performance and continued availability of funding.

How to apply: Please send a CV and a cover letter (1-2 pages) describing research interests and experience, future career goals, and reason for interest in this particular position. Please include the contact information for three academic references at the end of the cover letter. Using the email header “Postdoc position interest,” please send these materials to a.tate@vanderbilt.edu.

Review of applications will begin on July 19th, 2019 and will continue until the position is filled.

Questions about this position can be directed to:

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