



The University of Vermont

QUANTITATIVE AND EVOLUTIONARY STEM TRAINING PROGRAM (QuEST)

THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

<https://www.uvm.edu/quest>

DESCRIPTION

The QuEST program at UVM has an immediate opening for a postdoctoral opportunity involving teaching and research, aligned with a unique new graduate program.

This program is an innovative and evidence-based model for transforming STEM graduate education training and funded by an NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) grant. Areas of focus include ecological genomics, emerging infectious diseases, antibiotic and pesticide resistance, reduced crop yields caused by climate extremes and shifts, and how the loss of biodiversity affects the environment, global health, and food security. In each case, identification of successful solutions to these global challenges requires a fundamental knowledge of evolutionary principles and quantitative approaches. QuEST aims to train these problem-solvers through an innovative graduate program.

QUALIFICATIONS

We are seeking a talented postdoctoral fellow to join our team, someone with a quantitative background (quantitative biology, statistics, computer science, applied mathematics or related fields) to aid in curriculum design and teaching for flagship courses in the graduate program. This would include a course designed to introduce first-year QuEST Ph.D. students to quantitative reasoning and methods applicable to various STEM-related disciplines (ecology, evolution, conservation biology, epidemiology, and others).

This postdoctoral fellow would also be expected to conduct independent research with a QuEST faculty member (<https://www.uvm.edu/quest/participating-faculty>) in the areas of quantitative genetics, ecological genomics, marine biology, computational biology, bioinformatics, biostatistics or mathematical modeling.

The ideal candidate would have a record of success in teaching, be a willing mentor to graduate students in the QuEST program, and have a commitment to nurturing diversity in STEM academics.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested candidates should send a single PDF to include the following:

- Cover letter
- CV (with names and contact information for three references)
- Short teaching statement (1 page)
- Short research statement (1-2 pages)

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

120A Marsh Life Science Building, Burlington, VT 05405-0086 USA

(802) 656-2922 • fax: (802) 656-2914

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

QuEST Post Doc Recruitment (continued)

The University of Vermont

The cover letter should contain several items:

- a) A discussion of the candidate's interest in teaching, highlighting experience in curriculum design at any level
- b) A brief summary of the candidate's research experiences, and what areas they might be interested in exploring further
- c) A discussion of the candidate's long-term goals

SUBMISSIONS

Send by email directly to:

- 1) Melissa Pespeni, Assistant Professor (Department of Biology) and Director of the QuEST program, mpespeni@uvm.edu
- 2) April Berteau, QuEST Program Coordinator, aberteau@uvm.edu

Deadline: Review of applications will begin at the end of March and continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

Start date: July 1st, 2018 but negotiable

Other details: Informal inquiries prior to submission of application are welcome.

Burlington is a hip, little city surrounded by the lakes and mountains of northern Vermont. The area thrives on local food, international culture, and outdoor activities year-round.

Improving STEM diversity is a goal of the QuEST program as well as the university, and we are interested in recruiting and supporting individuals who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic environment.

Applications by members of all underrepresented groups in the STEM profession as well as Women, LGBTQ, first-generation college, differently-abled people and people with veteran status and those from underrepresented racial, ethnic, socio-economic and cultural groups are strongly encouraged to apply.