

Research Technician, plant-herbivore interactions

Full-time research technician position to assist with greenhouse, lab, and field experiments studying plant-herbivore interactions. Technician will assist with an NSF funded project characterizing density effects in plant-herbivore interactions for use in plant population models. Specific responsibilities include:

- setting up and tending experiments in the field and greenhouse;
- collecting, entering, and analyzing data;
- caring for experimental organisms (plants and insects);
- maintaining detailed records of experimental protocols;
- supervising ordering of research supplies;
- communicating regularly with two principle investigators and other lab members;
- supervising undergraduate research assistants;
- assisting with other projects in the lab.

The technician will have the opportunity to take a course at FSU for credit if desired, and will be encouraged to participate actively in the intellectual life of the Ecology and Evolution group by attending seminars and/or discussion groups of interest.

The minimum requirements for the position are:

- a bachelor's degree in biology, ecology, entomology, botany, or other relevant field;
- research experience *outside* of formal coursework;
- a willingness to work in hot, humid, sometimes buggy conditions;
- a demonstrated work ethic that includes reliability, attention to detail, independence, self-motivation, organization, and the ability to work with a range of different people.

Additional desirable but not required skills or experience include:

- previous work with plants and/or insects;
- familiarity with Excel and/or some statistics package (SAS, Splus, JMP, etc)
- independent research (e.g., REU, senior research thesis, master's research thesis, etc.).

The technician will join a lab carrying out research on a variety of issues in the ecology and evolution of plant-insect interactions that is part of an outstanding group of ecologists and evolutionary biologists at Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL. Tallahassee is an affordable small city situated near a variety of easily accessible natural areas. Position to begin May or early June 2010 (start date flexible). Salary \$20-22K, commensurate with experience. Benefits include health insurance, vacation and sick leave. Position requires one-year commitment, with possibility of extension.

Review of applications **starts February 22** and will continue until the position is filled. FSU is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We welcome applications from women and candidates from underrepresented groups.

Please submit an application including: (1) a letter addressing your qualifications, career goals, and why you want this job; (2) resume or cv; (3) college transcripts (unofficial Ok—official will be required for hiring paperwork); and (4) contact information for two references who can speak to your qualifications for this position. Electronic applications are strongly preferred; please submit as e-mail attachments. Please send materials to:

Stacey Halpern, Biology Department, Pacific University, Forest Grove, OR 97116

shalpern@pacificu.edu

For further information on the PIs, see the following websites or email one of us:

Underwood: bio.fsu.edu/~nunderwood/homepage/, nunderwood@bio.fsu.edu

Halpern: www.pacificu.edu/as/biology/faculty/halpern.cfm, shalpern@pacificu.edu

Inouye: <http://bio.fsu.edu/~binouye/>, binouye@bio.fsu.edu