

Cnidarian ecology and evolution postdoc

Location: Texas A&M University, College Station TX

Start Date: Flexible, but can begin as soon as Aug 2022, with ideal start date Jan 2023. I will consider applicants with start dates in spring/summer 2023.



Details: The initial appointment would be one year, however funding can continue for up to three years assuming adequate progress. Starting salary is \$55,000 USD with associated merit-based raises each year. College Station, TX, is an affordable college town. Average rent prices for a 2 bedroom are ~\$1K.

Background: The [Strader Lab](#) (Texas A&M University) studies how environmental change impacts marine invertebrates from the level of the epigenomic landscape to an evolutionary ecology viewpoint. Our lab group is working to develop the *Cassiopea* jellyfish as a model to study eco-evolutionary dynamics in a global change context. Ultimately, we are interested in teasing apart the relative role of adaptive processes and phenotypic plasticity in contributing to biological invasion and characterizing genes associated with high environmental tolerance in a symbiotic cnidarian.

The proposed research integrates aspects of global change biology, whole genome multi-omics analyses (*e.g.*, low coverage whole genomes, DNA methylation, transcriptomics), experimental marine biology, and functional genetics. We expect candidates to have strengths in any one of those subfields and interests in developing skills in any of the others.

The Strader lab also investigates evolutionary drivers of coral resiliency to thermal stress in Mo'orean reef-building corals. Projects involve identifying genomic and epigenomic signatures of selection, impacts of thermal stress on long-term reproductive output, and the dynamics of symbiont associations. Applicants with interest in contributing to these projects are welcome to apply.

Ideal candidates will have:

- PhD in biology, ecology, evolution, genetics, genome science, data science, or another relevant field.
- Experience with analyzing and interpreting high throughput sequencing data in non-model systems with a preference for knowledge of marine invertebrate genomics
- Background in biostatistics, data analysis, and data management, particularly genomic and ecological data
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Interest in understanding epigenetics mechanisms regulating gene expression in non-model invertebrates
- Experience mentoring and managing diverse groups of students of various levels
- Dedication to outreach and science communication

The Strader lab is committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for EVERYONE. This entails personalized mentorship approaches, and regular discussion of literature associated with diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM. We strive to promote the voices of historically underrepresented groups in ecology and evolution.

We would like candidates to address their approach to mentoring and promoting diversity in STEM in their cover letter. To apply or for additional enquiries, please email a cover letter, contact information for three references, and CV to Dr. Strader (stradermarie@gmail.com). Position will remain open until filled.