

The Durham Lab at the University of Florida is currently recruiting a laboratory Research Technician. The start date is flexible, but ideally the successful candidate would begin between April 2021 and June 2021. Research in the Durham Lab (<https://www.durham-lab.com>) focuses on the molecular ecology and chemistry of environmental microbes. Current projects include exploration of metabolite exchange in marine phytoplankton-bacterial interactions and terrestrial moss-cyanobacterial interactions. The technician will be primarily responsible for processing and analyzing microbial and plant samples using liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS)-metabolomics techniques. In particular, the technician will analyze samples using high-resolution LC-MS system(s) located in the UF's Interdisciplinary Center for Biotechnology Research (www.biotech.ufl.edu) mass spectrometry core facility. Other responsibilities may include microbial cell culture, administration of the lab (e.g., lab safety, chemical inventory, ordering supplies), and LC-MS data analysis. This is a one-year term position with the potential for renewal. We will consider candidates who seek part-time or full-time work, with a minimum commitment of 20 hours per week.

The technician will be responsible for carrying out projects overseen by Dr. Durham. In addition, there will be opportunities for the technician to lead independent projects with his/her/their own intellectual and creative contributions. The technician will also have access to training programs and professional development opportunities. This includes, but is not limited to, attending training workshops (e.g. bioinformatics training through UF Carpentries <https://www.uf-carpentries.org/>, LC-MS short courses through ASMS), mentoring undergraduate students, presenting research at conferences, and writing and publishing manuscripts.

The Durham Lab is part of the UF Biology Department (<https://biology.ufl.edu/>) and the UF Genetics Institute (ufgi.ufl.edu), both of which provide inclusive and collegial environments. The Durham Lab is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and intersectionality. We have our own DEI values statement (<https://www.durham-lab.com/dei-values.html>) and encourage applications from historically under-represented groups in STEM. The successful applicant will join a collaborative group of PhD-level scientists, graduate students, and undergraduate students with expertise in metabolomics, transcriptomics, microbial physiology, oceanography, and bioinformatics.

Fundamental requirements and qualifications include the following:

- A Bachelor's degree in Chemistry or related field
- Demonstrated knowledge of chromatography and/or mass spectrometry methods
- Strong work ethic and independence
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Excellent English writing and speaking ability
- Ability to manage multiple projects
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail

Additional, preferred qualifications include the following:

- A Master's degree or work experience in environmental or analytical chemistry or related field
- Demonstrated scientific writing skills (preferably through publication record)
- Data analysis experience (R or Python)

Special Instructions to Applicants:

To be considered, prospective candidates should send a 1-2 page cover letter describing their background and interests, a CV, and contact information for three references (references will be contacted after initial review of applications) to Dr. Bryndan Durham (b.durham@ufl.edu). Review of applications will begin March 1st, 2021 and continue until the position is filled.

About the University of Florida: The University of Florida is ranked #6 in top public universities in the United States. Research in the biological sciences at the University of Florida is conducted by faculty in many departments, across several Colleges and Institutes, providing a rich intellectual environment and extensive opportunities for collaboration. The Biology Department interacts closely with the Whitney Laboratory for Marine Biosciences (www.whitney.ufl.edu), the Genetics Institute (ufgi.ufl.edu), the Florida Museum of Natural History (www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu), the Interdisciplinary Center for Biotechnology Research (www.biotech.ufl.edu), the High Performance Research Computer Cluster (HiPerGator, www.rc.ufl.edu), the Nature Coast Biological Station (<https://ncbs.ifas.ufl.edu>), the UF Biodiversity Institute (<https://biodiversity.institute.ufl.edu>), the UF Informatics Institute (informatics.institute.ufl.edu), the Water Institute (waterinstitute.ufl.edu), the Florida Climate Institute (<https://floridaclimateinstitute.org/>), and the Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program (pmcb.ifas.ufl.edu). The University of Florida counts among its greatest strengths that it values diversity in its faculty, students, and staff and creates a robust, inclusive, and welcoming climate for learning, research, and other work.

About Gainesville: Gainesville is a progressive city located in North Central Florida with a population of about 132,000. Due to the presence of the University of Florida and Santa Fe College, the city offers a great number of activities combining the best aspects of a metropolitan city with the hospitality of a college town. Gainesville contains numerous restaurants, microbreweries, and entertainment opportunities (museums, theatre, music, sports) and is home to the critically acclaimed Hippodrome Theater, the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, the Harn Museum of Art, and the Florida's State Museum of Natural History. Gainesville is also the perfect spot for individuals who enjoy the outdoors. The city maintains 27 parks and is located within 50 miles of more than 40 nature settings. These settings offer a combination of camping, hiking, swimming, picnicking, boating, and fishing. Several of these areas include some of the clearest springs in the nation, providing excellent snorkeling, scuba diving and world-class cave diving. Cost of living is very affordable in Gainesville, and the yearly average temperature in the sunshine state is 70 degrees.