Research Technician I – Centre for Biodiversity Genomics – Collections Unit

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Research Technician I – Centre for Biodiversity Genomics – Collections Unit

Biodiversity Institute of Ontario

Temporary full-time from November 2021 to November 2022
Hiring #: 2021-0615

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

Job Description:

This position will take place within the Collections Unit of the Centre for Biodiversity Genomics. The Collections Unit is primarily responsible for the sourcing, digitization, and archiving of biological samples as well as preparing the samples for genetic analysis at the Canadian Centre for DNA Barcoding (CCDB). The position will primarily involve the preparation and digitization of bulk arthropod trap samples for subsequent image analysis by machine learning methods. The individual will assist with maintaining and sterilizing equipment and materials; editing, organizing and transferring image files; and corresponding with partners involved in this research, including collaborators at the University of Helsinki and in the Machine Learning Research Group at the University of Guelph. Other tasks may include sample data capture (inputting information into an internal database), specimen preparation (preserving samples, filtering bulk samples, measuring the mass of bulk samples, etc.), tissue sampling (taking a small piece of tissue for DNA analysis), and specimen organization (labelling and archiving bulk samples for on-site/off-site long-term storage). Due to the high level of data accuracy required for our projects, the individual should have strong organizational skills and attention to detail. Experience with Microsoft Excel and Access (or other databases) is an asset, as is experience in laboratory maintenance, sample handling, and use of digital SLR cameras. This position would be ideally suited to candidates interested in pursuing a career in biodiversity and/or entomology and/or as a laboratory technician.

Requirements:

- Minimum one-year post-secondary experience required
- Must be fluent in using Excel spreadsheets
- Must be able to work well both independently and in a team setting
- Ability to demonstrate a high level of organizational skill and attention to detail
- Good dexterity, able to work with minute and fragile samples
- Comfortable working in a high-throughput and dynamic environment
- Ideally would have an interest in high-resolution imaging and/or machine learning methods

Classification               Grant/ Trust fund position, Band A
GTAT (Grant & Trust Administrative and Technical) Salary Grid [2]

At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [3] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.

Posting Date: 2021 11 15
Closing Date: 2021 11 22