

Assistant Project Scientist in Pollination Ecology

The Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology at the University of California, Riverside invites applicants for a part-time Assistant Project Scientist in Pollination Ecology to conduct research for the Rafferty research group. The purpose of this position is to provide scientific and technical support for projects related to the community ecology of flowering plants and pollinating insects, including but not restricted to native California wildflowers and solitary bees. The successful candidate will have laboratory and field experience and expertise in biology, life history, ecology, phenology, behavior, and conservation of plants and pollinators, with a focus on forbs and bees.

Required qualifications at the time of application for this position include:

1. At least 5 years of practical experience working with plant-pollinator interactions
2. Experience designing and conducting experiments involving flowering plants and bees in a greenhouse setting
3. Experience with solitary bee maintenance and rearing in the lab
4. Good plant identification skills and experience with collecting pollinators from plants using hand netting
5. Experience measuring floral traits, such as nectar volume and sugar concentration, from plants with different floral morphologies
6. Experience collecting and preparing insect specimens for a variety of downstream analyses, including but not limited to museum curation and pollen analysis
7. Experience collecting, collating, and managing observational datasets
8. Physically capable of arduous work required for field and greenhouse studies under southern California climatic conditions, including work in heated greenhouses that simulate future warming temperatures for experiments with plants and insects, and conducting plant and insect surveys over transects of several miles in rugged terrain at remote field sites

An additional qualification that is required at the time of hire is a Ph.D. (or equivalent degree) in ecology or a related field.

Preferred qualifications for this position include:

1. Experience identifying a diversity of pollinating insects in the field
2. Experience with advanced statistics, including circular statistics for the analysis of phenological data
3. Knowledge of California native plants
4. Experience writing scientific papers and presenting at scientific conferences
5. Experience with *Osmia lignaria*, the blue orchard bee, in greenhouse and lab settings

Advancement through the Project Scientist ranks at the University of California is through a series of structured, merit-based evaluations, occurring every 2-3 years, each of which includes substantial peer input.

To apply: submit your Curriculum Vitae, a Statement of Past and/or Planned Future Contributions to Advancing Diversity and Inclusive Excellence, and contact information for three references to <https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF01487>. Review of applications will commence on November 11, 2021, and proceed until position is filled. For full consideration, applicants should submit their complete applications prior to the above date.

For more information about this position, please contact Dr. Nicole Rafferty, Chair of the Search Committee, Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology, at rafferty@ucr.edu. For questions on application procedures and requirements, please contact Ms. Mary Stuart, Academic Personnel, at mary.stuart@ucr.edu.

UCR is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students. A commitment to this mission is a preferred qualification.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

University of California COVID-19 Vaccination Program Policy:

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Policy. All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of Full Vaccination or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, and/or Religious Objection) or Deferral (based on pregnancy) no later than the applicable deadline. For new University of California employees, the applicable deadline is eight weeks after their first date of employment.