

Applications are welcome for a Postdoctoral Associate to work on sexual selection at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Position description: The Miller Lab at the University of Florida welcomes applications for a postdoctoral researcher to focus on the elaborate morphologies and behaviors of sexual selection in insects. The successful applicant will assume a supervisory role within a research team, working closely with students and interns to complete projects sponsored by a recent NSF award. Opportunities to develop complementary research questions and proposals with the project team will be encouraged. Note that this position comes with significant leadership responsibilities, thus demonstrated excellence in previous leadership roles is a plus. The application deadline was May 9th, but we are considering applications after this date until the position is filled.

The successful candidate will work closely with undergraduate researchers, international interns, and M.S. students. The successful applicant will also coordinate scientific outreach, reaching diverse students from across the country and the globe. Other responsibilities with this position include interfacing with other lab members to care for insect colonies and host plants and keeping the lab well organized and running smoothly. We are looking for previous leadership experience, excellent communication, a positive attitude, and enthusiasm for learning new skills. Work on evolutionary biology, ecology, and/or animal behavior is also important.

Project description: Sexual selection has resulted in some of the most astonishing traits in the animal kingdom, such as the tusks, horns, and antlers used by males as they compete with rivals for mating opportunities. These and other sexually selected weapons have evolved to function physically in battle. In this project, we examine weapon composition, structure, and use in a fighting insect, the leaf-footed cactus bug, *Narnia femorata* (Hemiptera: Coreidae). Importantly, we embrace the ecology of the organism, testing the profound effects that natural variation in nutrition can have on both the processes and outcomes of sexual selection.

Qualifications: Well-qualified candidates will:

- * Hold a PhD in behavioral ecology or evolutionary biology;
- * Have demonstrated skills in data collection, statistical analysis and writing;
- * Have excelled at animal care;
- * Show strong leadership qualities and excellent communication skills;
- * Enjoy taking a team approach to scientific study;
- * Have experience with outreach and mentoring students.

Desirable qualities include:

- Experience working with insects;
- Possession of a drivers license;
- Comfort conducting field work in hot, humid Florida conditions on occasion.

Interested applicants can learn more about this position, including how to apply, at:

<http://www.millerlab.net/opportunities.html>.

Diversity and inclusion are more than just words for us. These are central in guiding how we come together as a research team, cultivate excellence, and go forth into the world to share our discoveries and our love of our work.

Information about Gainesville, Florida:

Situated in the rolling countryside of north central Florida, Gainesville, is close to world-class fishing, snorkeling, canoeing, tubing and kayaking. On land, those so inclined may enjoy birding, hiking, biking, and fishing. Home of the University of Florida, seat of Alachua County's government and the region's commercial hub, Gainesville is progressive, environmentally conscious and culturally diverse. The presence of many students and faculty from abroad among its 99,000-plus population adds a strong cross-cultural flavor to its historic small-town Southern roots. Its natural environment, temperate climate and civic amenities make Gainesville a beautiful, pleasant, and interesting place in which to learn and to live.