MSc and PhD positions

Two graduate assistant positions (MSc and/or PhD) starting Aug 2019 are available in the Laboratory of Fish Endocrinology and Environmental Physiology, Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA.

We study the regulation of salt-and-water balance, development, growth, immune function and environmental adaptation by the orderly release of hormones which integrate information from genes and the environment. Amongst our main interests are:

- The signal transduction of environmental salinity changes into physiological responses in fish by employing the prolactin cell model for osmoreception.
- Acclimation to extreme environments, stress response, osmoregulation and growth in fish by investigating specialized cellular and organismal responses to changing environmental conditions and diets.

Our studies can improve the way we utilize and protect aquatic organisms, can increase the food supply through aquaculture without compromising environmental health, and can provide new avenues for revealing acclimation strategies to extreme environmental variations. Our lab employs a range of techniques in physiology, cell and molecular biology, and bioinformatics to address fundamental and applied research questions. These questions have broader implications to aquaculture and biomedical research.

Under supervision of Prof. Andre P. Seale, successful applicants will lead a research project focused on one of the main interests above (see recent publications). The successful candidates will have the opportunity to interact with students and faculty of various disciplines and will gain extensive experience in experimental approaches and in finfish aquaculture. Applicants will also be encouraged to collaborate locally and internationally to develop state-of-the-art approaches that are best suited to their specific research questions. The ideal candidates shall be highly motivated and have demonstrated (or have strong potential for) academic and research excellence, with a minimum average of B over the last two years of study.

Consideration for the GRA positions is contingent on the acceptance into the graduate programs in Animal Sciences (MSc applicants only) or the Intercollege Program in Nutrition (PhD applicants). Application deadlines for the Aug 2019 start are due on Feb 1, 2019.

Although direct entry into the PhD program is possible, preference will be given to candidates with a MSc in Animal Physiology or a related field (in hand or near completion), with evidence of manuscripts submitted and/or published in reputable peer-reviewed journals in relevant fields.

For full consideration, submit your complete application package through the Graduate Division Website. As you apply, select the program according to your preference (i.e. “PhD Nutrition”). You can specify your research interest in your “statement of purpose”, which should also include your broader goals and rationale for attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Further information on the application process our research projects and contact can be found through the hyperlinks above. If you have any further questions please contact Prof. Seale by email.