TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

The Sobol Ecology and Evolution of Early Life Lab (https://sobollab.wp.txstate.edu/) at Texas State University is looking to hire a Postdoctoral Scholar to begin Fall 2025.

Position Summary:

As a postdoc in our lab, you'll apply your expertise in microbial 'omics analysis and phylogenetics to explore the biological, ecological, and environmental drivers contributing to the evolution of microbial life and their metabolisms. Applicants should have interests broadly in the fields of microbial ecology and evolution, geomicrobiology, and/or astrobiology.

You will be given substantial intellectual freedom to develop your own research projects, with possible directions including: 1) Mechanisms of gene divergence and neofunctionalization, 2) Discovery of novel taxa and genes/pathways from environmental samples, 3) Unlocking eco-evolutionary drivers of metabolic evolution, or other related ideas.

You will be expected to be involved in the supervision of PhD, Master and Bachelor students. We're looking for someone excited to mentor students in computational approaches, whether through informal guidance or structured in-lab tutorials and workshops. Additionally, you will contribute to manuscript preparations and present your research at conferences.

Qualifications:

You hold a PhD in microbiology/microbial ecology or similar and have experience in bioinformatic methods for analyzing microbial sequence data (metagenomes, amplicons, whole genomes). Experience with collecting environmental samples, extracting microbial DNA, preparing sequencing libraries and any other wet lab experience is a big plus.

Duration:

The position is available for up to two years pending satisfactory progress during the first year, with a 3% raise in the second year. Starting salary is $60,000. Start date is somewhat flexible but should be between 8/1/25 and 12/31/25.

You must submit the following documents, in one single PDF, to Dr. Morgan Sobol (msobol@txstate.edu) to be considered for the position:

1) A brief cover letter describing your interests and how they align with the lab, your career goals, and what you expect from your experience in our lab.
2) Your CV with clear evidence of your skills in microbial 'omics data analysis.
3) A list of up to three references with contact information. We will contact references directly during the candidate selection process.

Application review will start immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Questions and inquires can be directed to Dr. Morgan Sobol.