

Postdoctoral research associate positions are available to work with the Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center (GLBRC; <https://www.glbrc.org/>) collaborators Daniel Noguera (https://directory.engr.wisc.edu/cee/Faculty/Noguera_Daniel/) and Tim Donohue (https://bact.wisc.edu/people_profile.php?t=rf&p=tdonohue). The GLBRC is one of four national bioenergy research centers, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. The position provides multiple opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations with GLBRC scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Michigan State University and other partners.

The research focuses on understanding microbial pathways involved in the conversion of aromatics and other residues derived from non-edible lignocellulosic biomass into valuable products. We seek to mine genomes of bacteria to analyze, decipher and assemble bacterial hosts capable of converting lignin-derived aromatics and other lignocellulosic residues into chemicals that are currently derived from petroleum. The research combines use of genomics, systems, synthetic and computational biology, with metabolism, enzymology and genetics to assemble novel microbial chassis organisms that industry could use to generate valuable chemicals from plant biomass.

The successful candidate will have a **Ph. D. in relevant biological, computational sciences, or engineering field**, and will work effectively in a team research setting. The position will include a combination of computational and experimental work along with the analysis of genomic data from batch cultures or bioreactors. **Required skills** include an ability to combine analytic, chemical, computational, molecular biology, genomic, and biochemical methods to the analysis of microbes that metabolize aromatics and other biomass residues. Experience in quantitative methods, programming or modeling of microbial activities is desirable. Strong candidates will also have a track record of publication in quality peer-review journals, creativity, independence, and excellent communication skills, both written and oral.

The position is renewable annually, contingent upon funding and/or satisfactory performance. The candidate will be mentored by dedicated faculty and staff in the center and have the ability to mentor junior scientists, give oral presentations, and work as part of cross-disciplinary teams. A start date in late 2020 is preferred, but alternative timelines will be considered and should be noted in the cover letter. All questions about the position and application materials should be submitted to Tim Donohue (tdonohue@bact.wisc.edu) or Dan Noguera (noguera@engr.wisc.edu). Applicants should expect to be interviewed electronically and possibly in person. Applications will be considered until these training positions are filled.

Applications should consist of a single pdf file that includes:

- a cover letter (1-2 pages) that highlights past research accomplishments, how your previous experience will benefit this project and how this project aligns with your future research goals;
- a curriculum vitae;
- names and contact information for three references.
- review of application materials will begin immediately.

UW-Madison is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.