



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Veterinary Medicine  
& Biomedical Sciences



WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Agriculture  
& Natural Sciences

VERO – Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach Program

## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Graduate Research Assistantships for Studies of Microbial Ecology Relating to Agriculture – MS and PhD level**

#### **VERO – Veterinary Education, Research, and Outreach Program, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University, Canyon, TX**

Dr. Paul Morley, Professor and Director of Research at the Veterinary Education, Research and Outreach (VERO) Program, is seeking applicants for graduate student positions at the masters or PhD level to investigate the impact of microbial communities on livestock health and production. VERO is a collaborative partnership with Texas A&M University (TAMU) College of Veterinary Medicine and West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) in Canyon, TX. The VERO partnership maintains a highly active research program, allowing students opportunities for pursuing graduate training related in a variety of areas, including animal health and production, infectious diseases, microbiology, microbial ecology, food safety, immunology, epidemiology, statistics, and data science.

The VERO Program is an exciting new multi-institutional, interdisciplinary collaborative initiative that is located in the heart of one of the most productive animal agricultural regions in the world (<https://vetmed.tamu.edu/vero/>). The Texas A&M System has invested nearly \$90 million in new facilities in Canyon, Texas to promote the future of agriculture and animal health in the region. These include the new state-of-the-art TAMU VERO Center, the WTAMU Agricultural Sciences Complex, and a new Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory.

VERO partners, including researchers from TAMU, WTAMU, and Texas A&M AgriLife Research have strong research programs addressing important problems of practical significance to cattle and other livestock industries including, the control and prevention of infectious diseases and the promotion of sustainability and efficiency of production practices. Successful candidates will either be enrolled at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine within Biomedical Sciences graduate degree program, or within the Systems Agriculture PhD program or Masters of Science in Agriculture program concentrating in Animal Science at WTAMU.

- <https://vetmed.tamu.edu/bims-graduate-program/>
- <https://www.wtamu.edu/academics/college-agriculture-natural-sciences/departments-agricultural-sciences/index.html>

#### **Qualifications:**

Applicants are required to have completed a bachelors or equivalent college degree by the date of hire, and should have a background supporting future studies in microbial ecology, genomics/metagenomics, and/or bioinformatics. It is critical that all VERO team members have a strong work ethic, and a desire and ability to work in a team atmosphere. Additionally, the students must possess strong English communication skills (both written and oral) and be well organized, detail-oriented, self-motivated, and communicate effectively. It is a strong expectation that VERO

students will support each other to promote the program's mission, and must have strong positive interpersonal skills. Stipend is commensurate with prior education and experience.

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF file that includes a curriculum vitae, and a letter of interest. This letter should describe scientific interests and career goals, a statement of why they are suitable for this program, and explanation of how their background makes them appropriately suited for these training programs. The names and contact information of three references should also be listed in the PDF file. Applicants should submit this single PDF document via email to Ms. Jaye Hawkins ([jehawkins@tamu.edu](mailto:jehawkins@tamu.edu)). Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until all positions are filled. Applicants are encouraged contact Dr. Paul Morley, ([pmorley@tamu.edu](mailto:pmorley@tamu.edu)) prior to submission.

The Texas A&M System and its affiliated agencies are Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veterans/Disability Employers committed to diversity. These agencies affirm and support many different dimensions of diversity, and we are fully committed to ensuring a climate of inclusion where all our faculty, students, and staff are empowered to achieve their full potential.

Texas A&M System is committed to enriching the learning and working environment for all visitors, students, faculty, and staff by promoting a culture that embraces inclusion, diversity, equity, and accountability. Diverse perspectives, talents, and identities are vital to accomplishing our mission and living our core values.