Professor David A. Mills, at the University of California, Davis, Department of Food Science and Technology, is seeking to fill a 100% time, Step 1 Junior Specialist to join our research team studying the gut microbiome. Our team is working to understand gut health as it relates to diet. Our research focuses on the fundamental biology of keystone bacteria that colonize animal gastrointestinal tracts. An additional outcome of this research translatable therapies, diagnostics and tools that maintain and promote gut health and prevent dysbiosis.

As part of our team, the successful candidate will manage our next generation sequencing pipeline, which profiles the microbial communities of samples from various collaborative microbiome projects. The incumbent will be trained to use the following techniques to address our research questions: spreadsheet formatting and construction, sample organization, DNA extractions from feces and other environmental samples, QPCR, PCR, and PCR purification. Other tasks, such as equipment maintenance, general lab-supply ordering, and freezer organization, are also part of expected duties. The incumbent is expected to be actively and significantly involved in publishable research activities [e.g., writing summary reports of lab work, reviewing the literature in the area of study, and engaging in discussions with the research team on the interpretation of research results], and may also provide assistance in the preparation of research presentations, and participate in professional/technical societies or groups appropriate to their expertise.

BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:
• B.S. in microbiology, molecular biology or other related fields.
• Thorough experience in basic laboratory practices including sterile technique, pipetting, etc.
• Thorough experience in environmental DNA extractions and PCR.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
• Comfortable working extensively with human samples.
• Comfortable communicating with a diverse group of collaborators, including professors, staff researchers, and graduate students.
• Strong interpersonal, communication, and decision-making skills; as well as the ability to work well independently and as part of a team

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS
SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE
• Environmental DNA extraction
• PCR
• Standard/safe laboratory practices

OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS
• Ergonomic hazards including repetitive motions, crushing or pinching injuries, standing for long periods, and lifting weight up to 30lbs.
• Exposure to hazardous laboratory chemicals.

The position is available immediately. It is a one year appointment with a with a salary of $36,984 per year. For full consideration, please apply by 6/13/16 at: https://recruit.ucdavis.edu/apply/JPF01058

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the
complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy see: http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct.

Under Federal law, the University of California may employ only individuals who are legally able to work in the United States as established by providing documents as specified in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986. Certain UCSC positions funded by federal contracts or sub-contracts require the selected candidate to pass an E-Verify check. More information is available http://www.uscis.gov/e-verify.

UC Davis is a smoke & tobacco-free campus (http://breathefree.ucdavis.edu/). If you need accommodation due to a disability, please contact the recruiting department.