



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

Department of Biology

POSITION SUMMARY

The Department of Biology at Occidental College invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Biology with appointment to begin Fall 2024.

SUMMARY OF DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND GOALS

The Department of Biology at Occidental College invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant Professor level in Cell or Molecular Biology with expertise in bioinformatics or computational biology. We are seeking to integrate computational and high-throughput data analysis approaches in our course and research offerings. The research area of specialty is broadly open, and possible research areas of interest include cancer genomics, single-cell transcriptomics, metabolomics, proteomics, disease epidemiology, systems biology, synthetic biology and other integrative areas of research that involve the collection and analysis of large datasets relevant to biological systems or biomedicine.

Occidental Biology faculty are teacher-scholars who combine research with a commitment to educating and mentoring undergraduates. They contribute to the curricula of their departments, advise students, carry out research, are responsive to the educational equity goals of the department and the college, and provide departmental, college, and external service. The successful candidate will teach an introductory or intermediate level cell and molecular biology course, as well as an upper-level course in their area of expertise. They will also be responsible for producing research products commensurate with the requirements for tenure, developing a research program that engages undergraduate students, and participating in the departmental and broader college community. As Cell and Molecular Biology is an interdisciplinary field, the position will involve collaborating productively with campus colleagues in other departments.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required Qualifications

- A Ph.D. in Cell or Molecular Biology or a related science discipline.
- Evidence of impactful peer-reviewed scholarly research and publications in the field of cell and molecular biology, broadly defined to include the single-cell scale, but could also include research that integrates molecular/cellular approaches to evaluate questions at a larger scale of organization (organismal, community or ecosystem). The research should include a bioinformatics or computational approach.
- Compelling vision for developing a research program that includes undergraduates, with potential to attract extramural funding
- Evidence of excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. Please do not include individual teaching evaluations.

- Evidence of engaging with broader societal impacts of the scholarly research, e.g., through scientific outreach, local partnering, or community engagement
- Evidence of working effectively with students from historically marginalized communities
- Ability to present scientific ideas clearly, in both verbal and written formats, at an appropriate level for the audience
- Demonstrated potential for effective integration of technology into instruction
- Commitment to collaborating effectively with colleagues across specialties, departments, or disciplines

Preferred Qualifications

- Postdoctoral research and/or postdoctoral teaching experience
- Ability to leverage College resources (e.g., natural history collections, genomics center, or high-performance computer cluster) or nearby natural resources in the Southern California area for research and/or broader impacts
- Prior experience teaching undergraduates. Include examples of teaching undergraduates bioinformatics or large-scale data analysis if possible.
- Prior experience collaborating with colleagues across specialties, departments, or disciplines.
- Ability to teach and collaboratively work with campus-based colleagues in departments and programs including Biochemistry, Computer Science, Chemistry, Cognitive Science and Public Health.

SALARY RANGE

EXPECTED SALARY RANGE: \$84,500 - \$96,000

If you are offered this position at Occidental College, your final base salary compensation will be determined based on factors such as skills, education, experience, and/or geographic location. In addition to those factors, Occidental complies with applicable pay equity laws and considers internal equity among current employees when developing the final offer. Please keep in mind that the range mentioned above is the base salary range for the role. Hiring at the maximum of the range would not be typical in order to allow for future and continued salary growth.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

You must submit a complete application package electronically to be considered. To apply, please visit: apply.interfolio.com/129386

- Cover letter describing the applicant's interest in the position, ability to meet all required qualifications and if possible, preferred qualifications.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Research Statement of ~3 pages including how you will incorporate undergraduate students into your research program
- Teaching Statement of ~3 pages, including Teaching Philosophy and Prior Experience.

Please do not include student evaluations.

- Commitment to Inclusive Excellence Statement of ~1-2 pages

This statement provides your unique perspective on your past and present contributions to and future aspirations for promoting justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity in your professional career. This should include your demonstrated commitment to, past evidence of, and future plans for creating equitable

opportunities for learning and mentoring especially for students from marginalized and minoritized groups. The purpose of this statement is to help the department identify candidates who have professional experience, intellectual commitments, and/or willingness to engage in activities that could help the College contribute to its mission in these areas.

- List of 3 references with relevant contact information

If you advance to the semi-finalist phase, you will be asked to have each of your three references submit a letter of recommendation. Do not submit these letters with your initial application.

Please direct all questions about the position to: Krizia Oasin at oasin@oxy.edu or call 323-259-2697.

Application Deadline

To be assured full consideration, your application materials must be received by October 2, 2023.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Our new colleague will join a department of 13 tenured or tenure-track faculty, 3 full-time non-tenure-track professors, and 4-5 part-time non-tenure-track professors serving a campus community of 2,000 undergraduate students. Biology is a popular major on campus with 40-50 seniors graduating annually and 15-25 seniors in the jointly-administered Biochemistry department. The department seeks an individual with a demonstrated commitment to inclusive excellence and one who will understand and embrace college initiatives and aspirations to support a diverse faculty, student body, and staff in all endeavors of the college. Campus resources include a Genomics Center with equipment for next-generation DNA sequencing, a high-performance computer cluster, animal facilities, confocal and scanning electron microscopes, and several internationally-recognized natural history collections.

Occidental College is a nationally ranked small liberal arts college, located in the culturally-rich Los Angeles neighborhoods of Eagle Rock and Highland Park, near Caltech, the Jet Propulsion Lab, and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. The neighborhoods surrounding the College are home to a wealth of urban amenities and cultural attractions. The College's location allows access to nearby marine and terrestrial research facilities. Occidental is recognized for its diverse student body and its outstanding undergraduate research program.

Occidental is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not unlawfully discriminate against employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, breastfeeding or related medical condition, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic characteristic or information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law. Occidental is strongly committed to increasing the diversity of the campus community and the curriculum, and to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and just environment within which students, staff, administrators, and faculty thrive. Candidates who can contribute to this goal through their work are encouraged to identify their strengths and experiences in this area. Individuals advancing the College's strategic equity and justice goals and those from groups that are underrepresented in the field are particularly encouraged to apply.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. A comprehensive benefits package is available that includes: excellent health, dental, life, and retirement benefits; tuition benefits for the employee, spouse, domestic partner, and dependents; additional extras including use of gym facilities and the College Library. For a detailed description of benefits, please visit <https://www.oxy.edu/offices-services/human-resources/benefits-information>.

All qualified applicants will be considered for employment, including those with criminal histories, in a manner consistent with the requirements of applicable state and local laws, including the City of Los Angeles' Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.

Occidental College is committed to working with and providing reasonable accommodations to applicants with qualifying disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation because of a disability for any part of the application or employment process, please contact Human Resources (hr@oxy.edu).

As a condition of hire for a staff position and for appointment to a faculty position, Occidental College requires that all candidates who have received a conditional offer of employment complete an application form (if they have not already done so) and consent to a background check. Satisfactory completion of a background check, along with pre-employment verifications and references are required as a condition of employment, but only as permitted by federal, state, and local law, including the City of Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.