

Two Postdoctoral Positions: Avian Health and Avian Disease Ecology

Two postdoctoral research associate positions are available in the Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University.

Position #1 (Avian Health): The successful applicant will expand an ongoing research program on the health of pet, wild, and exotic birds, including studies of the transmission and prevention of avian bornavirus and other health threats. The preferred candidate will have a PhD in biomedical science or a related field with research experience in animal models, infectious disease, diagnostics, and/or molecular biology. Additionally, the preferred candidate will have strong statistical and data analytic skills with a good track record of publications and strong organizational, written, and oral communication skills. Applicants with a DVM are encouraged to apply.

Position #2 (Avian Disease Ecology / Conservation Medicine): The successful applicant will contribute to programs studying the role of wild birds in the ecology of emerging disease or avian conservation medicine. Particular areas of interest include how avian migration relates to the invasion and spread of bacteria, viruses, and vectors or how pathogens regulate bird populations. The preferred candidate will have a PhD in ecology, evolution, wildlife, virology, epidemiology, biomedical science or a related field with research experience in birds, vectors, and/or disease ecology. Additionally, the preferred candidate will have strong statistical and/or bioinformatic skills with a good track record of publications and strong organizational, written, and oral communication skills. The successful candidate will help advance ongoing collaborations with the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center

Both successful candidates will design and carry out studies at the Avian Health Complex, an on-campus facility with aviaries, isolation facilities, laboratory, clinic and classroom. The postdoctoral research associates will be expected to contribute to proposal writing, carry out research, prepare manuscripts, and mentor undergraduate, veterinary, and/or graduate students. The successful applicants must work independently and as a member of multidisciplinary collaborative teams. The candidates will have the opportunity to integrate with the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Program (<http://eeb.tamu.edu/>), Applied Biodiversity Science Program (<https://biodiversity.tamu.edu/>), and other interdisciplinary initiatives.

The Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center (<https://vetmed.tamu.edu/schubot/>) was founded at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University in 1987. The Center is supported by an endowment created by the late Mr. Richard Schubot, an enthusiastic breeder of large parrots. Participants in the Schubot Center include a multidisciplinary group of faculty, veterinarians, and students from multiple departments dedicated to solving avian health and conservation problems through advanced research. The Schubot group is involved in teaching at multiple levels (undergraduate, graduate, DVM students) about avian health and conservation building on the 'One Health' initiative.

Application review will begin June 30, 2019, and the positions will remain open until filled. The expected start date is flexible with Fall 2019 being ideal. The positions are appointed for two years (pending satisfactory progress), with subsequent renewals dependent on performance and available funds. Salary is \$47,484 with a benefits package. Application materials consist of a cover letter, CV, statement of research interests and career goals, and the names of three references sent as a single PDF to Sarah Hamer: shamer@cvm.tamu.edu

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