GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Chemical Analysis Techniques

Advanced Mass Spectrometry for Characterization of Algal Lipids, Complex Carbohydrates and Biofuel Conversion Products. We seek a highly motivated and independent student who is eager to expand their perspective and develop skills in applied chemical analysis. This project is being carried out in the NMSU Chemical Analysis and Instrumentation Laboratory and would require an academic co-advisor in a sponsoring department. The initial project duration is two years with continuation likely/desired. The project involves interface with a multi-disciplinary biofuel development team at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and focuses on the advancement of high-resolution mass spectrometry for the characterization of lipids, carbohydrates and process related biofuel intermediates in model and commercially-relevant microalgal biomass. This approach will be instrumental in the development of a high-throughput strain and process improvement strategy for oil extraction and biomass conversion.

Qualifications: Applicants must have a B.S. or M.Sc. degree in chemistry, plant science, chemical engineering or related field. Preference will be given to the student with a strong instrumentation background.

Current Stipend: M.S. Student – annual stipend amount: $21,682/year
Ph.D. Student – annual stipend amount: $22,220/year
Note: GRA awards are not tuition-free; the successful non-resident candidate pays in-state tuition of $279.50/credit hour; graduate assistants must register for a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester to retain assistantship.

Availability: November 2013, Spring 2014, at the latest

Application: To apply, email a letter of intent, C.V., copies of transcripts, GRE scores and TOEFL scores (for international applicants only), and contact information for three references to Dr. Tanner Schaub (575-646-5156) prior to submitting a formal application to the NMSU Graduate School.

Contact: For details about general application, please visit http://gradschool.nmsu.edu/.

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This position will be open until filled.